



THE BOARD of SUPERVISORS

First District



**Gloria
Molina**

Second District



**Yvonne
Brathwaite
Burke**

Third District



**Zev
Yaroslavsky**

Fourth District



**Don
Knabe**

Fifth District



**Michael D.
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1 [PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2003-2004 PROPOSED BUDGET (03-1324)]

2

3

4 SUP. BURKE, CHAIR: THE MEETING WILL PLEASE COME TO ORDER. DO
5 WE HAVE A PLEDGE? AH STAND FOR THE -- WE DON'T HAVE A SALUTE
6 THIS MORNING. DO YOU WANT TO... ALL RIGHT. SUPERVISOR KNABE
7 WILL LEAD US IN THE SALUTE.

8

9 SUP. KNABE: WOULD YOU ALL PLEASE RISE AND --

10

11 SUP. BURKE, CHAIR: AND SAY ANY INSPIRATIONAL WORDS HE WISHES
12 TO SAY, IN THE WAY OF PRAYER.

13

14 SUP. KNABE: WHAT ARE WE DOING? DO YOU WANT ME TO DO BOTH? OKAY
15 THEN. PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE ATTITUDE OF PRAYER. OUR MOST KIND
16 AND GRACIOUS HEAVENLY FATHER, WE COME BEFORE YOU THIS MORNING
17 TO ONCE AGAIN SAY THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY, THANK
18 YOU FOR TODAY, AND THANK YOU FOR TOMORROW. THE DECISIONS AHEAD
19 OF US, DEAR GOD, ARE DIFFICULT, WE ASK FOR YOUR WISDOM, YOUR
20 GUIDANCE, WE ASK THAT YOU BE WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY,
21 THE PEOPLE WE SERVE. WE WANT TO GIVE YOU ALL THE PRAISE AND
22 GLORY, AND ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SAID "AMEN." PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE
23 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

24



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WE WILL START WITH THE LIBRARY
2 ON THESE HEARINGS. WE HAVE A LIST. THESE HEARINGS, ANYONE WHO
3 DOES NOT GET A CHANCE TO SPEAK TODAY, IT WILL BE GOING OVER TO
4 NEXT TUESDAY. WE HAVE THE SHERIFF'S SCHEDULE FOR NEXT TUESDAY
5 AND ALSO SOMEONE ELSE IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY. THE D.A. IS
6 SCHEDULED FOR NEXT TUESDAY. AND C.A.O. AND COUNTY COUNSEL ON
7 RISK MANAGEMENT, SO THAT ANYONE WHO DOES NOT HAVE AN
8 OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK, WE MAY HAVE TO PUT SOME OVER TO NEXT
9 TUESDAY, BUT WE'LL TRY TO DO IS -- GET THROUGH THE WHOLE
10 ENTIRE LIST. THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN.

11

12 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** MADAM CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD,
13 I'M GOING TO ASK GORDON STEFENHAGEN, THE CHAIR OF OUR LIBRARY
14 COMMISSION TO BEGIN.

15

16 **GORDON STEFENHAGEN:** THANK YOU, MARGARET. GOOD MORNING, MADAM
17 CHAIR, AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY NAME'S GORDON
18 STEFENHAGEN. I CURRENTLY SERVE AS CHAIRPERSON OF YOUR LIBRARY
19 COMMISSION, AND I'M ALSO A CITY COUNCILMAN WITH CITY OF
20 NORWALK. I'M HERE TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTY
21 PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN ALL OUR COMMUNITIES AND TO URGE YOU TO
22 FIND A WAY TO SUPPORT THESE LIBRARIES, EVEN IN THESE DIFFICULT
23 FINANCIAL TIMES. THE COMMISSION MEMBERS AND I ARE VERY
24 GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT THAT THE BOARD HAS
25 PROVIDED TO OUR LIBRARIES. YOUR ASSISTANCE OF \$7 MILLION LAST



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1 YEAR HELPED TO KEEP ALL OUR LIBRARIES OPEN AND FUNCTIONING AND
2 THOSE FUNDS ARE NEEDED AGAIN THIS YEAR. LET ME JUST RELATE TO
3 WHAT I KNOW BEST, AND THAT'S THE CITY OF NORWALK. WE HAVE A
4 LARGE REGIONAL LIBRARY AND A SMALLER COMMUNITY LIBRARY THAT
5 SERVES THE SOUTH END OF OUR TOWN WHICH IS PRIMARILY HISPANIC,
6 AND WE DRAW A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT OF ARTESIA AND PARTS OF
7 CERRITOS ALSO BECAUSE IT'S SO CONVENIENT. THE REGIONAL LIBRARY
8 SERVES OUR CITY AS WELL AS MANY SURROUNDING AREAS WITH A
9 LARGER COLLECTION AND MORE OPEN HOURS. CUTS TO LIBRARIES SUCH
10 AS NORWALK WOULD NOT ONLY IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY, BUT MANY
11 NEIGHBORING RESIDENTS AS WELL, AND I MIGHT ADD THAT THE
12 REGIONAL LIBRARY IS VERY WELL USED BY TWO LOCAL COMMUNITY
13 COLLEGES, WHICH WOULD BE CERRITOS AND RIO HONDO. WE GET AN
14 AWFUL LOT OF COLLEGE KIDS COME IN AND USE THE RESOURCES. OUR
15 COMMUNITY LIBRARY SERVES AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF BEING A
16 PLACE FOR STUDENTS TO GO AFTER SCHOOL FOR ASSISTANCE WITH
17 HOMEWORK AND FOR FREE ACCESS TO COMPUTERS, A PLACE FOR STORY
18 TIMES AND READING PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN AND PLACES WHERE
19 LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT REACH ALL AGES. THE COUNTY
20 LIBRARY IS ALSO IN GREAT NEED OF A MORE STABLE BOOK BUDGET.
21 WHILE OUR FRIENDS GROUPS DO A GREAT JOB WITH BOOK SALES AND
22 DONATIONS, THEY CAN'T PROVIDE THE FUNDS NEEDED FOR A LIBRARY
23 SYSTEM OUR SIZE. OUR PRIORITY FOR YOUR BOARD IS DEFINITELY
24 OPEN HOURS, BUT SHOULD THE STATE BUDGET CUT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
25 FOUNDATION GRANTS, OR AS KNOWN AS P.L.F., WE'LL NEED TO LOOK



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1 TO YOU FOR ASSISTANCE WITH BOOKS AND MATERIALS AS WELL. I
2 CERTAINLY KNOW THAT YOU ARE FACING DIFFICULT CHOICES THIS
3 TOUGH BUDGET YEAR. THE RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF FUNDS THAT
4 KEEP COUNTY LIBRARIES OPEN HAVE GREAT BENEFIT FOR ALL OUR
5 COMMUNITIES. THESE DOLLARS GO A LONG WAY TO KEEPING ESSENTIAL
6 COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNCTIONING AND OPEN. WE'D GREATLY ASK FOR
7 YOUR SUPPORT AGAIN THIS YEAR, AND I'D JUST LIKE TO COMMENT,
8 MADAM CHAIR, THAT THE LIBRARY COMMISSION IS VERY ACTIVE IN
9 TRYING TO COME UP WITH SOME OPTIONS TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD
10 FOR SOME TYPE OF PERMANENT FINANCING FOR OUR LIBRARIES. I
11 DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT'LL BE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE OPTIONS WILL
12 BE, BUT WE ARE WORKING ON THIS AS A COMMISSION WITH MARGARET
13 TODD AND ALL HER STAFF HELPING US ALSO. IT -- AS LONG AS I'VE
14 BEEN ON THE COMMISSION AND AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN ON THE CITY
15 COUNCIL OF NORWALK, IT'S ALWAYS EVERY YEAR WE GOT SOME TYPE OF
16 PROBLEM WITH THE LIBRARIES, AND IT'S ALWAYS DOLLARS. SO I'M
17 HOPING THAT WE COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT IS VIABLE AND WE
18 DON'T HAVE TO BE HERE EVERY YEAR ASKING FOR MORE AND MORE
19 MONEY, SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I APPRECIATE IT.

20

21 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** MY NAME IS MARGARET DONELLAN TODD,
22 I'M THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN. THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES
23 THAT THIS YEAR THE BOARD FACES MANY SERIOUS BUDGET ISSUES AND
24 THAT THE LIBRARY IS ONE OF NUMEROUS DEPARTMENTS FACING
25 REDUCTIONS. THE BOARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN COMMITTED TO PUBLIC



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1 LIBRARIES AND THE BOARD HAS BEEN GENEROUS IN ITS FINANCIAL
2 SUPPORT OVER THE PAST YEARS. WHILE MY BUDGET PROPOSAL REQUESTS
3 THE CONTINUATION OF \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTION
4 IN THIS DIFFICULT BUDGET YEAR WE WILL BE APPRECIATIVE OF
5 WHATEVER SUPPORT THE BOARD CAN PROVIDE. HOWEVER, IF THE
6 LIBRARY DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECEIVE THE CONTINUATION OF THE
7 \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND, THE DEPARTMENT WILL NEED TO
8 CURTAIL SERVICE. LAST YEAR, THE C.A.O. AND THE LIBRARY
9 PRESENTED INFORMATION TO THE BOARD IDENTIFYING A STRUCTURAL
10 DEFICIT IN THE LIBRARY BUDGET, WITHOUT THE CONTINUATION OF THE
11 \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND SUPPORT, THAT DEFICIT WILL STILL
12 EXIST. AS THE BOARD IS WELL AWARE, STATE ACTION IN THE EARLY
13 '90S, KNOWN AS THE E.R.A.F. SHIFT, RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF 50%
14 OF THE COUNTY LIBRARY IS FUNDING. AT THAT TIME, THE LIBRARY
15 SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED AND ELIMINATED SERVICE. THE LIBRARY
16 STILL HAS NO PERIPHERAL PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT CAN BE
17 EASILY ELIMINATED IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE BUDGET BY \$7.3
18 MILLION. FURTHER, THERE ARE NO RESERVES FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS
19 THAT CAN BE TAPPED. AS A RESULT, THE ONLY CUTS LEFT TO MAKE
20 ARE TO BASIC SERVICES. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH PROPOSED STATE
21 REDUCTIONS ARE NOT REFLECTED IN THE COUNTY'S BUDGET AT THIS
22 TIME, THE GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED TO REDUCE OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY
23 FUND, THE P.L.F. MONEY, BY \$1.6 MILLION. IF THE STATE DECIDES
24 TO ELIMINATE ALL P.L.F. FUNDING, THAT WILL RESULT IN \$3.2
25 MILLION REDUCTION. NOW, WHILE IT SEEMS UNLIKELY AT THIS POINT



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1 THAT ALL THE P.L.F. FUNDING WILL BE ELIMINATED, THE LOSS OF
2 \$1.6 MILLION IS PROBABLE. CURRENTLY P.L.F. REVENUE IS USED TO
3 FUND THE MATERIALS BUDGET. THE MATERIALS BUDGET IS \$4 MILLION,
4 A \$1.6 MILLION CUT WILL LEAVE ONLY 2.4. USING STANDARD
5 GUIDELINES FOR URBAN LIBRARIES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHOULD HAVE
6 A MATERIALS BUDGET OF AT LEAST \$12 MILLION. I CANNOT SAY THAT
7 THIS CURTAILMENT RECOMMENDATION I PRESENT TO YOU IS A GOOD
8 PLAN. WHEN YOU CUT BASIC SERVICE, THERE ARE NO GOOD CUTS. I
9 BELIEVE THIS PLAN IS REASONABLE AND BALANCED. THE COUNTY
10 LIBRARY IS PROPOSING TO CLOSE 15 LIBRARIES, ONE BOOK -- ONE
11 BOOK MOBILE, AND REDUCE HOURS AT ALL REMAINING FACILITIES. I
12 HAVE INCLUDED DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING OUR PROPOSAL IN
13 MY REPORT TO THE BOARD, WHICH I BELIEVE YOU NOW HAVE. MY
14 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SERVICE REDUCTIONS ARE BASED FIRST ON
15 STEWARDSHIP. WHILE RESTRUCTURING LIBRARY SERVICE LEVELS, WE
16 MUST LOOK NOT JUST TO THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS, BUT ALSO TO THE
17 FUTURE WELL BEING OF THE LIBRARY. WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE CORE
18 INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE LIBRARY IS NOT SO SERIOUSLY DAMAGED THAT
19 THE COUNTY LIBRARY CAN NEVER RECOVER. IN AN EFFORT TO BALANCE
20 THIS PROPOSAL, WE HAVE SPREAD CLOSURES ACROSS DISTRICTS BASED
21 ON THE NUMBER OF LIBRARIES IN EACH DISTRICT. WE HAVE ALSO
22 CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF FACTORS: SIZE OF THE LIBRARY, USE
23 STATISTICS, AND THE DISTANCE FROM OTHER COUNTY LIBRARIES. OUR
24 CURTAILMENTS WERE DETERMINED PRIMARILY BY THE SIZE AND USE OF
25 EACH FACILITY. IN ADDITION, THOSE COMMUNITIES THAT PARTICIPATE



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1 IN SPECIAL TAX HAVE RECEIVED AUGMENTED SERVICE IN THE FORM OF
2 ADDITIONAL HOURS OR AN ADDITIONAL DAY OF SERVICE. AS I HAVE
3 PREVIOUSLY STATED, THERE IS NO GOOD WAY TO CUT LIBRARY
4 SERVICE. I'D BE HAPPY TO DEVELOP ANY OTHER OPTIONS OR PLANS
5 THAT THE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO SEE PRESENTED.

6

7 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ARE THERE QUESTIONS?

8

9 **SUP. KNABE:** NO, MADAM CHAIR. I JUST HAVE ONE. I UNDERSTAND THE
10 DIFFICULTY THAT YOU'RE CONFRONTED WITH AND OBVIOUSLY THE
11 IMPACT ON OUR DISTRICTS. IT'S THE ONE THAT IS THE BOOK MOBILE.
12 WOULD NOT THE BOOK MOBILE, IF NOT UTILIZED, WOULDN'T THAT BE A
13 -- AN ASSISTANCE TO BE ABLE TO SOME OF THESE AREAS WHERE
14 YOU'RE REALLY STRETCHING OUT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN LIBRARIES,
15 WOULDN'T THE BOOK MOBILE BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP THAT UP
16 AND OPERATING, MAYBE NOT NECESSARILY IN THE SAME AREA, BUT IN
17 SOME OF THESE OTHER AREAS THAT ARE IMPACTED SO SEVERELY?

18

19 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WELL IT'D CERTAINLY BE TRUE
20 SUPERVISOR THAT WE WOULD END UP WITH A BOOK MOBILE SITTING
21 IDLE. IT COSTS -- IT DOES COST MONEY THOUGH TO RUN A BOOK
22 MOBILE, AND WE WOULD HAVE TO LOOK TO SEE IF WE COULD GET
23 SUFFICIENT DOLLARS TOGETHER TO MAKE USE OF THAT.

24



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1 **SUP. KNABE:** WELL I'M THINKING WHAT I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO DO IS
2 AT LEAST LOOK WHAT THE COST OF OPERATION IS, BECAUSE IF WE'VE
3 PAID FOR THE BOOK MOBILE -- I MEAN, ABOUT THE ONLY THING
4 YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IS GAS.

5

6 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** AND STAFF TIME.

7

8 **SUP. KNABE:** AND STAFF TIME, BUT I THINK THAT --

9

10 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WE'D BE HAPPY TO DO THAT.

11

12 **SUP. KNABE:** I'D SURE HATE TO SEE A BOOK MOBILE SITTING IDLE IN
13 THESE TIMES IF WE HAVE TO -- I MEAN, GRANTED, THIS IS ONLY A
14 PLAN AND WE'LL TRY TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO RESOLVE SOME OF
15 THE ISSUES, BUT IF NOT, I'D CERTAINLY HATE TO SEE A BOOK
16 MOBILE SITTING IDLE.

17

18 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WE CAN DEVELOP THAT INFORMATION.

19

20 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** OKAY THANK YOU.

21

22 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I WOULD JUST LIKE TO GET A CLARIFICATION IN
23 TERMS OF THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX THAT SOME OF THESE CITIES
24 GIVE TOWARDS LIBRARIES. SOME OF THE CITIES MAKE -- OBVIOUSLY
25 SOME OF THE CITIES HAVE ASSESSMENTS.



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1

2 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** RIGHT THAT'S CORRECT.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** AND OTHERS, THEIR CONTRIBUTION JUST IS
5 THROUGH THEIR TAX. IS THAT IT?

6

7 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** CORRECT. AND ALSO SUPERVISOR, SOME
8 OF OUR CITIES DO PROVIDE SOME MONEY FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICE, WE
9 HAVE A FEW THAT PROVIDE FOR BOOKS AND MATERIALS, SOME THAT
10 GIVE US SOME ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR HOURS.

11

12 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I SEE. AND I WAS LOOKING AT ONE PARTICULAR
13 LIBRARY, WHERE 84% OF THE COST OF THAT LIBRARY COMES FROM THE
14 PROPERTY TAX OF THE PEOPLE IN THAT AREA.

15

16 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** YES. WE HAVE -- IT'S A MIX, WE HAVE
17 -- IF WE LOOK SOLELY AT THE PROPERTY TAX PIECE, EVERY
18 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTES A DIFFERENT AMOUNT BASED ON THE
19 VALUATION OF THEIR PROPERTY. SO WE CERTAINLY DO HAVE SOME
20 CITIES THAT ARE CONTRIBUTING MORE TOWARD THE OPERATION OF
21 THEIR LIBRARY THAN OTHERS.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** BECAUSE I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE REALLY A
24 VERY SENSITIVE THING FOR THOSE CITIES THAT -- FOR INSTANCE, IF
25 A CITY IS CONTRIBUTING 84% OF THEIR TAX TOWARD THE LIBRARY,



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1 THEN SAY, "OKAY, WE'RE CLOSING THAT LIBRARY," IT WOULD SEEM
2 THAT THEY'RE -- IF THEY ARE NOT PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, IF
3 THEY JOIN IN THE ASSESSMENT, COULD THEY MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE
4 IN THAT?

5

6 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** IF THEY ARE PART OF THE SPECIAL TAX
7 --

8

9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THE -- IF THEY JOIN IN THE SPECIAL TAX --
10

11 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WHICH IS CALCULATED BASED ON PARCEL,
12 THEY ARE RECEIVING AUGMENTED SERVICE. WE BASICALLY GET OUR
13 CALCULATIONS, EXCUSE ME, BY LOOKING AT -- DOING A BASE AND
14 THEN SAYING, "OKAY, THESE PARTICULAR LIBRARIES RECEIVE AN
15 EXTRA DAY OF SERVICE OR ADDITIONAL HOURS" SO THAT THEY ARE
16 GETTING THEIR SPECIAL TAX VALUE.

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT IF -- A SPECIAL
19 TAX, DOES THAT COVER 16% OF THE COST OF THE LIBRARY?

20

21 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** IT WOULD VARY FROM EACH COMMUNITY
22 BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF PARCELS IN EACH COMMUNITY IS DIFFERENT.
23 I WOULD SAY OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, PROBABLY NOT, IT'S
24 PROBABLY LESS.

25



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IT'S ABOUT WHAT AMOUNT?

2

3 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** I WOULDN'T KNOW, SUPERVISOR. I WOULD
4 NEED TO GET YOU THAT INFORMATION.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO LOOK AT
7 SOME OF THESE WHERE THE PROPERTY TAX IS BEING PAID FOR, A
8 LARGE PERCENTAGE OF IT TO THEN SAY TO THEM "OKAY, YOU'RE GOING
9 TO CONTINUE TO PAY THAT TO THE LIBRARY BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO
10 HAVE YOUR LIBRARY," IS A VERY STRANGE THING TO SAY. I THINK
11 THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN SOME OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP THAT 16% SOME
12 WAY BY ASSESSMENT OR SOMETHING ELSE AND THAT THAT SHOULD BE
13 PLACED BEFORE THEM, RATHER THAN SUMMARILY CLOSING A LIBRARY IF
14 THEY IN FACT ARE ALREADY PAYING TAX THAT CAN -- THAT ALMOST
15 COVERS THE COST OF THE LIBRARY.

16

17 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** AND SUPERVISOR, WE WILL ALSO WORK
18 WITH EACH CITY TO ALSO ASK THEM FOR THOSE THAT AREN'T
19 CURRENTLY ON THE SPECIAL TAX IF THEY'D LIKE TO JOIN, IF NOT,
20 WOULD THEY BE WILLING TO CONTRACT WITH US TO PROVIDE US FUNDS
21 FOR SOME ADDITIONAL SERVICE. SO WE'LL ALSO WORK WITH CITIES IN
22 THAT WAY AS WELL.

23



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. OKAY. ARE THERE OTHER QUESTIONS?
2 BEFORE -- SUPERVISOR MOLINA, DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OF THE
3 LIBRARY AND? ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

4
5 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** THANK YOU SUPERVISOR.

6
7 **SUP. KNABE:** THANK YOU.

8
9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DAVID SANDERS, DR. SANDERS, DIRECTOR OF
10 CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES. ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

11
12 **DR. DAVID SANDERS, DIR., D.C.F.S.:** GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU.
13 WE'RE GOING TO SPEAK SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE ALTERNATIVE USES
14 OF MACLAREN, AND I'M GOING TO HAVE JOHN OPPENHEIM, THE CHIEF
15 DEPUTY, SPEAK ABOUT SOME OF THE DETAIL, BUT JUST VERY BROADLY,
16 THERE ARE TWO AREAS THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT USING THE SAVINGS
17 FROM MACLAREN IN: ONE IS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS FOR
18 HARD-TO-PLACE CHILDREN, AND THE SECOND IS TO PUT THE
19 COMPONENTS OF A BETTER-FUNCTIONING PLACEMENT PROCESS IN PLACE,
20 AND SO THE ITEMS THAT WE'VE IDENTIFIED ARE ALL TOWARDS THAT
21 PURPOSE, AND I'LL HAVE MR. OPPENHEIM TALK ABOUT THE DETAIL.

22
23 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** YEAH, THANK YOU, GOOD MORNING. AND WE I THINK
24 GAINED A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE PROCESS OF EXAMINING EACH
25 CHILD THAT CAME INTO MACLAREN DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT



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1 WE WERE MOVING TO TAKE IT OFF-LINE AND FOR EACH CHILD THAT
2 HAVE TO -- AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE FOUND WAS A GAP IN
3 OUR SERVICE CAPACITY AFTER THE CLOSURE OF MACLAREN, WAS TO
4 FIND A RIGHT APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT FOR ALL CHILDREN. THERE ARE
5 TIMES GIVING -- GIVEN THEIR NEEDS THAT IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL
6 HOURS TO CONTACT, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS, BACKGROUND CLEAR,
7 RELATIVES, WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE, AND THAT WE NEED
8 DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY COMFORTABLE CHILD-FRIENDLY
9 LOCATIONS THAT CAN SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD ON A LESS-
10 THAN-24-HOUR BASIS AND PROVIDE A PLACE FOR THE SOCIAL WORKER
11 TO ACCESS THE INFORMATION THROUGH TELEPHONE AND COMPUTER TO
12 SELECT AND CLEAR AN APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT. SO WE'VE GOT A
13 SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY, \$4.2 MILLION, OF RESERVE TO OPEN
14 AT LEAST THREE FAMILY RESOURCE RECEPTION CENTERS. WE WILL ALSO
15 USE THEM AS MULTI-PURPOSE CENTERS TO DO SUPERVISED VISITATION
16 BETWEEN PARENT AND CHILD AND TO DO FAMILY GROUP DECISION
17 MAKING CONFERENCES. ULTIMATELY WE HOPE TO HAVE A FAMILY
18 RECEPTION CENTER IN EVERY SERVICE-PLANNING AREA THROUGHOUT THE
19 COUNTY. ALSO, WE FOUND THAT, AS PART OF THE PROCESS, THAT
20 WORKING WITH OTHER CARE GIVERS, PARTICULARLY GROUP HOMES WHO
21 HAVE BY CONTRACT THE ABILITY TO GIVE A 7-DAY NOTICE TO
22 INDICATE THAT THEY WANT TO TERMINATE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH
23 SERVICE TO THE CHILD, THOSE WERE CHILDREN THAT FREQUENTLY CAME
24 BACK INTO MACLAREN. WHAT OUR PERMANENCY TEAMS DO AND MULTI-
25 DISCIPLINARY TEAMS IS GO OUT AND MEET WITH THE CARE GIVER, THE



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1 CHILD, BRING FAMILY MEMBERS IN, IF AVAILABLE AND APPROPRIATE,
2 AND TRY TO BOTH STABILIZE THAT PLACEMENT, AT THE SAME TIME
3 MAKING A MUCH BETTER PERMANENCY PLAN FOR THE CHILD. SO THAT'S
4 THE PERMANENCY TEAMS WOULD ADD ABOUT 21 STAFF AND COST ABOUT
5 \$1.1 MILLION, AND AGAIN, WE'D HAVE A PERMANENCY TEAM THAT
6 WOULD BE ABLE TO DO THIS PROCESS IN EVERY SERVICE PLANNING
7 AREA. WE HAVE A MEDICAL DIRECTOR COORDINATOR, WE'RE FINDING
8 THAT WE REALLY NEED A CAPACITY TO PROVIDE OVERSIGHT, DO BETTER
9 PLANNING AND COORDINATION OF THE HEALTH AND PSYCHIATRIC
10 SERVICE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN. TEAM DECISION MAKING IS AT THE
11 POINT WHERE A CHILD FIRST COMES INTO THE SYSTEM TRYING TO VERY
12 QUICKLY, WITHIN 48 TO 72 HOURS, ASSEMBLE A TEAM THAT WOULD
13 INCLUDE A WORKER WHO MADE THE ASSESSMENT AND DECISION THAT THE
14 CHILD NEEDED TO BE REMOVED FOR THEIR OWN PROTECTION. THE
15 WORKER WHO WOULD BE PROVIDING ONGOING SERVICES TO THE FAMILY
16 AND FAMILY MEMBERS, TO SEE IF WE COULD COME UP WITH AN
17 IMMEDIATE VIABLE ALTERNATIVE PLAN TO THE PLACEMENT OF THE
18 CHILD IN STRANGER CARE. FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING, AGAIN,
19 IS, I THINK, AN EXTRAORDINARY TOOL THAT REALLY BRINGS EXTENDED
20 FAMILY MEMBERS TOGETHER TO ASSIST IN PLANNING FOR THE CARE AND
21 SUPERVISION OF THE CHILD. IT COULD BE USED AT A POINT WHERE
22 MAYBE A CHILD WAS WITH A GRANDMOTHER AND AS THE GRANDMOTHER
23 GETS OLDER AND BECOMES INCAPABLE OR UNABLE TO CARE FOR THE
24 CHILD, ASSEMBLING THE EXTENDED FAMILY TO HELP US PLAN FOR THE
25 ONGOING CARE AND SUPERVISION NEEDS OF THE CHILD. IT CREATES A



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1 LOT OF STABILITY, IS VERY EMPOWERING AND MOBILIZING TO BRING
2 THE FAMILY TOGETHER TO ASSIST WITH THAT PROCESS. OUR PERMANENT
3 -- OUR TRIAGE TEAMS ARE, AGAIN, TEAMS THAT WILL HELP US LOOK
4 AT AND MAKE BETTER DECISIONS REGARDING CHILD SAFETY,
5 PARTICULARLY IN SITUATIONS WHERE THERE ARE COMPLEX ISSUES OR
6 NUMEROUS PRIOR REFERRALS. OUR PUBLIC WRAP-AROUND PROGRAM IS A
7 COMPONENT OF THE PROGRAM THAT ENSURES THAT WE CAN PROVIDE THE
8 FULL RANGE OF WRAP-AROUND SERVICES TO THOSE CHILDREN WHO ARE,
9 BECAUSE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CONTROL, DESIGN IN THE FEDERAL
10 WAIVER, ARE IN A CONTROL GROUP BUT NEED THE SERVICES ANYWAY IN
11 ORDER TO GET THE FULL BENEFIT OF THE PROGRAM, AND I THINK FIND
12 PLACEMENT COMPONENTS THAT WOULD BE A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO
13 PLACEMENT IN THE FACILITY LIKE MACLAREN HOME. OUR WRAP-AROUND
14 INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION IS REALLY JUST ADDING TWO ADDITIONAL
15 STAFF, AN ACCOUNTANT III AND A SENIOR PARENT ADVOCATE TO KEEP
16 THE FOCUS IN WRAP-AROUND ON FAMILY AS A FAMILY CENTERED
17 PRACTICE, AND AS THE PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW, THERE ARE NOW
18 OVER 350 CHILDREN BEING SERVED IN WRAP-AROUND IN LOS ANGELES
19 COUNTY, AND BY THE END OF THE BUDGET YEAR, THERE'LL BE OVER
20 700, SO IT'S JUST THE STAFFING RESOURCES THAT ARE NEEDED TO
21 PAY FOR THOSE SERVICES. THE GROUP COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS ARE
22 BEING USED TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND IMMEDIATELY ON A 24-HOUR, 7-
23 DAY A WEEK SCHEDULE TO GO INTO FAMILY HOMES OR GROUP HOMES OR
24 FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY HOMES TO PROVIDE ONE-ON-ONE SUPERVISION
25 TO STABILIZE A CHILD AND PREVENT THE NEED FOR THAT CHILD'S



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1 PLACEMENT TO BE DISRUPTED, IMPACTING THEIR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
2 AND PERFORMANCE AND WE ARE FINDING, WITH THE 20 WORKERS THAT
3 WE'RE USING CURRENTLY WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN AT MAC, THAT IT
4 IS A VERY POSITIVE AND ACHIEVING GOOD RESULTS IN STABILIZING
5 THE UNAVOIDABLE COSTS OF MACLAREN ARE BASICALLY JUST THOSE
6 THINGS THAT ARE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND
7 GROUNDS SO THAT IT DOESN'T DETERIORATE IN VALUE. THOSE
8 ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS THAT I SPOKE TO ARE ABOUT \$8.6 MILLION
9 AND ARE IN THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OTHER
10 ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES THAT WE THINK MAY BE NECESSARY BUT
11 AREN'T RIGHT NOW IN A POSITION TO QUANTIFY THEM, SO IN OUR
12 CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, WE'VE
13 REACHED AGREEMENT TO PUT THEM INTO A PROVISIONAL FINANCING
14 USES FUND, AND AS WE GET MORE DEFINITIVE WITH OUR NEEDS IN
15 TERMS OF COST, THEN WE WILL WORK WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE
16 OFFICE TO HAVE THOSE FUNDS RELEASED FOR THEIR SPECIFIC
17 PURPOSES. I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

18

19 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** QUESTIONS?

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IN SOME OF THE MANAGERIAL REFORMS THAT YOU'RE
22 GOING TO IMPLEMENT IN THE ADOPTIONS AREA, IS THAT GOING TO BE
23 COST REVENUE NEUTRAL, OR WILL THAT BE -- WILL THEY BE SAVINGS
24 GENERATED WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER --

25



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1 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I THINK IT SHOULD BE REVENUE NEUTRAL. ACTUALLY
2 OUR GOAL IS TO SUCCESSFULLY REDUCE THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY
3 IN OUT OF HOME CARE WHICH WOULD PRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS
4 THAT COULD BE REINVESTED IN THOSE MANAGERIAL IMPROVEMENTS, BUT
5 SHOULDN'T REQUIRE ACCESSING ANY OF THESE FUNDS.

6

7 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR KNABE.

8

9 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IS THERE A PLAN FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO
10 THE ADOPTIONS AREA?

11

12 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO WITH THE ADOPTIONS IS
13 TAKE A VERY CAREFUL LOOK AT HOW THE WORK IS CURRENTLY
14 DISTRIBUTED AND SEE IF SOME -- SOME REENGINEERING WOULDN'T
15 ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT AND THEN TO PARTICULARLY FOCUS
16 ATTENTION ON A MUCH MORE RAPID PROCESS. AND AT THIS POINT, I'M
17 REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT THE RESOURCES THAT ARE THERE, THEY
18 JUST NEED TO BE --

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO THE REFORMS WILL GENERATE -- IT'S REVENUE
21 NEUTRAL REALLY, THE REFORMS ARE GOING TO GENERATE GREATER
22 EFFICIENCY AND FASTER TURNAROUND, WITH ACTUALLY LONG-TERM
23 SAVINGS?

24

25 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THAT'S CORRECT YES.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. KNABE?

5

6 **SUP. KNABE:** BUT WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF THAT WE'LL CONTINUE
7 TO RECEIVE FROM THE STATE THOSE TITLE 4-B FUNDS, ABOUT \$9
8 MILLION FOR MACLAREN?

9

10 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I THINK IT'S REASONABLY POSITIVE THAT WE'LL
11 RETAIN SOME IF NOT ALL. I'VE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH
12 RITA SAENZ, THE DIRECTOR OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
13 SOCIAL SERVICES. SHE CERTAINLY APPRECIATES THE EFFORT AND THE
14 FINANCIAL CHALLENGE TO BRING MACLAREN OFF-LINE. I WROTE HER A
15 LETTER LAST WEEK ITEMIZING SOME OF OUR NEEDS FOR THAT MONEY
16 RELATED TO ALTERNATIVES TO THE USE OF MACLAREN AND SHE SEEMED
17 TO BE QUITE RECEPTIVE, BUT THAT'S -- THAT IS SHORT OF "THE
18 CHECK IS IN THE MAIL," BUT I THINK THAT THINGS ARE WORKING
19 REASONABLY POSITIVE.

20

21 **SUP. KNABE:** WHAT ABOUT THE REMAINING 9 AND A HALF MILLION
22 DOLLARS IN NET COUNTY COSTS FROM MACLAREN THAT WAS IN THE
23 BUDGET? I MEAN, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THAT? I MEAN --

24



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1 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WELL I THINK THAT IT WILL BE REQUIRED, WE'VE
2 BEEN WORKING WITH H.C.A.-- H.S.A., THE SERVICE ASSOCIATION ON
3 BRINGING UP SHORT-TERM INTENSIVE STABILIZATION PROGRAMS THAT -
4 - FROM ONE TO 14 DAYS THAT WOULD AVOID HOSPITALIZATION OF KIDS
5 IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS AND THAT WILL LIKELY REQUIRE SOME --
6 SOME COUNTY PATCH FUNDING IN ORDER TO MAKE THAT VIABLE OVER
7 AND ABOVE THE GROUP HOME RATE AND -- AND ELIGIBLE MENTAL
8 HEALTH SERVICES THAT WOULD GO IN. AS I SAID, WE'VE GOT FUNDING
9 CURRENTLY IN THE BUDGET TO OPEN AT LEAST THE FIRST THREE
10 RECEPTION VISITATION CENTERS. OUR GOAL IS TO OPEN AN
11 ADDITIONAL FIVE SO THAT THERE'S ONE IN EVERY SERVICE PLANNING
12 AREA. THAT WOULD BE WORKING WITH SOME PROVIDERS TO RETAIN SOME
13 BEDS AT THE VARIOUS GROUP HOME LEVELS, PARTICULARLY FOR THE
14 MOST DIFFICULT TO PLACE OLDER TEENS, TO ENSURE THERE ARE
15 RESOURCES AVAILABLE. AND THEN WANT TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL
16 FOSTER HOMES WHERE IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER FOR THE CHILD TO BE
17 IN A FAMILY ENVIRONMENT BUT WOULD REQUIRE SOME VERY INTENSIVE
18 SERVICES AND UNDER THE STATE IS CURRENT SYSTEM, THAT CAPACITY
19 DOESN'T EXIST. WE'D PLAN TO WORK WITH THE STATE TO DEVELOP
20 THAT CAPACITY AND TEST THE MERITS OF THAT APPROACH. THOSE ARE
21 JUST A FEW THINGS. THE OTHER THING WE'VE FOUND THAT -- THAT
22 ABOUT 20% OF THE CHILDREN THAT LEFT MACLAREN OVER THAT SIX
23 MONTH PERIOD, 20% OF THEM WE WERE ABLE TO FIND RELATIVES, A
24 NUMBER OF THEM IN THE AREA, SO WE'D WANT TO PUT TOGETHER A
25 DILIGENT SEARCH UNIT THAT CAN LOOK FOR THOSE RELATIVES AT THE



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1 BEGINNING OF THE CASE RATHER THAN WAITING LIKE WE DID IN THIS
2 CASE TO THE END, SO -- AND THEN I THINK CONTINUING TO PROVIDE
3 BETTER SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR OUR FAMILY PROVIDERS' RELATIVES AS
4 WELL AS NON-RELATIVES, AGAIN TO STABILIZE AND MAKE MORE
5 PERMANENT THESE KIND OF RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY. I ALSO NOTICE THAT MACLAREN EMPLOYEES WENT
8 TO ADMINISTRATION. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO DO WITH THOSE OR WHO
9 ARE THEY OR WHAT POSITIONS WERE THEY OR?

10

11 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THEY WERE IN COMPARABLE POSITIONS THAT WERE
12 VACANCIES IN THE DEPARTMENT THAT WE PROBABLY WOULD'VE, A
13 NUMBER OF THEM, KEPT VACANT BECAUSE OF THE FREEZE SITUATION,
14 BUT BECAUSE THEY WERE AVAILABLE AND VACANT, WE WERE ABLE TO
15 SUCCESSFULLY ABSORB ALL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF THAT HAD
16 BEEN AT MACLAREN.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY. THANK YOU. I'M DONE, MADAM CHAIR.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I'D LIKE TO ASK, FIRST OF ALL, WHAT ARE YOU
21 -- IF I'M SORRY IF YOU JUST SAID THIS AND I WAS OVER THERE
22 CONFERRING WITH SUPERVISOR MOLINA, BUT WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO
23 WITH MACLAREN? HAVE YOU MADE ANY PLANS?

24



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1 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WE HAVE NOT MADE ANY PLANS. IN TALKING WITH
2 THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, I THINK THEY'VE INDICATED
3 THAT THAT WOULD BE A TASK THEY WOULD BE WORKING ON.

4

5 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I SEE. WHEN DO WE EXPECT TO HAVE SOME IDEA
6 OF HOW THAT IS PROCEEDING?

7

8 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I CAN'T ANSWER THAT.

9

10 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT WELL WE'LL FIND OUT. ARE THERE
11 OTHER QUESTIONS? IF NOT, WE'LL GO ON. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

12

13 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THANK YOU.

14

15 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR KNABE IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE OVER
16 MENTAL HEALTH. RIGHT?

17

18 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY, WE'LL -- WE'LL PROCEED, THEN, WITH MENTAL
19 HEALTH. CALL DR. SOUTHARD UP, PLEASE. ALSO BE JOINED BY BRUCE
20 SALTZER AND DR. KITA CURRY, AND DR. SUSAN MANDEL, ARE HERE.

21

22 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR. D.M.H.:** SUPERVISOR KNABE, MEMBERS OF
23 THE BOARD, I ALSO HAVE WITH ME GURABUNDA SING CALZER, WHO'S
24 THE FINANCE DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT IN CASE THERE ARE ANY
25 QUESTIONS. I THOUGHT WE WOULD PROCEED BY TALKING ABOUT THREE



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1 ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN OF CONCERN TO YOUR BOARD IN BRIEF
2 OUTLINE, AND THEN IF THERE ARE QUESTIONS ON THOSE MATTERS,
3 WE'RE PREPARED TO ANSWER THOSE. THE FIRST OF THE ISSUES THAT I
4 WOULD BRING UP IS THE 3632 PROGRAM WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, IS THE
5 PROGRAM FOR SB-90 PROGRAM FOR SEVERELY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED
6 CHILDREN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR EDUCATION THAT THE STATE
7 HAS DEFERRED PAYMENT FOR OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS. WE HAVE
8 BEEN WORKING DILIGENTLY IN COORDINATION WITH THE C.A.O. AND
9 C.S.A.C. AT TRYING TO LOOK AT A SOLUTION FOR THAT PROBLEM.
10 CURRENTLY IT APPEARS THAT THERE MAY BE A SOLUTION THAT IS
11 DEVELOPING THAT WOULD INVOLVE EDUCATION, TAKING A LARGER ROLE
12 IN FUNDING OF THAT PROGRAM. LOCALLY, THE MAIN ISSUE REGARDING
13 3632 IS THAT OUR CONTRACT AGENCIES HAVE BEEN -- NOT BEEN FULLY
14 REIMBURSED FOR THE SERVICES THAT THEY HAVE PROVIDED. YOUR
15 BOARD AND THE C.A.O. HAVE, IN THIS FISCAL YEAR AND IN THE
16 BUDGET YEAR, PROPOSED TO PROVIDE 20.3 MILLION OR SO OF COUNTY
17 GENERAL FUND TO BE ADVANCED IN THE DIRECTION OF PAYING FOR
18 3632 SERVICES. IN THIS FISCAL YEAR, WE HAVE TAPPED OTHER
19 SOURCES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENT TO CONTRACTORS SO
20 THAT THEY HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE REIMBURSED ABOUT 80% OF THE
21 EXPENDITURES THEY HAD ON THE PROGRAM IN LAST BUDGET YEAR. SO
22 WE HAVE NOT SOLVED THE PROBLEM, OBVIOUSLY, BECAUSE IT'S A MUCH
23 BIGGER ISSUE IN THE OVERALL DEFERRAL OF PAYMENT FOR SB-90, BUT
24 WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ALLEVIATED THE PROBLEM FOR THIS YEAR AND WE
25 MAY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE AGENCIES WITH ADDITIONAL



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1 SUPPORT IN THE NEAR FUTURE BY ALLOCATING UNEXPENDED TOBACCO
2 SETTLEMENT FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO MENTAL HEALTH.
3 THE SECOND ITEM I WANTED TO SPEAK TO WAS THE 10-MILLION-DOLLAR
4 CURTAILMENT. THE BUDGET THAT WE HAVE PROPOSED IS BASED ON A
5 35.8 MILLION IN ONE-TIME REVENUES AND \$10 MILLION IN PLANNED
6 REDUCTIONS. THE PLANNED REDUCTION IN SERVICES, THE CORE ISSUE,
7 I THINK, OF CONCERN TO YOUR BOARD WOULD BE OUR REDUCTION OF
8 SERVICES TO INDIGENT CHILDREN. THAT REDUCTION IS, PERHAPS
9 SOUNDS WORSE THAN IT WILL BE BECAUSE OUR STRATEGY THERE IS
10 THAT WE BELIEVE, OVER TIME, WE WILL BE ABLE TO REPLACE THE
11 COUNTY GENERAL FUND THAT HAS BEEN SPENT ON TREATMENT OF THE
12 INDIGENT CHILDREN WITH HEALTHY FAMILIES REVENUES. THE
13 METHODOLOGY THAT WE EMPLOYED INVOLVED SHIELDING IN-PATIENT
14 SERVICES, CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES, AND SERVICES FOR
15 UNDOCUMENTED CHILDREN. WITH THOSE SHIELDED, THEN WE SPREAD THE
16 CUT OVER OUR CONTRACT AGENCY PARTNERS AND THE DEPARTMENT AND
17 CAME UP WITH A CURTAILMENT OF ABOUT 5.5 MILLION, OF WHICH 4.8
18 WAS FROM THE CONTRACT AGENCIES, ABOUT 625 FROM THE DEPARTMENT.
19 THE REMAINDER OF THE \$10 MILLION CURTAILMENT WAS TAKEN FROM
20 THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. THE LAST
21 ISSUE THAT I WILL SPEAK TO IS THE IN-PATIENT SERVICES WITH
22 AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES. DEPARTMENT
23 OF HEALTH SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH HAVE BEEN
24 WORKING AT RESOLVING THE FUNDING ISSUES BETWEEN THOSE TWO
25 DEPARTMENTS IN A WAY TO ADDRESS THE GOALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF



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1 HEALTH STRATEGIC PLAN. IN THAT PLANNING PROCESS, WE HAVE TAKEN
2 SOME ACTIONS TO SAVE DOLLARS THAT WOULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THAT
3 EFFORT, BUT -- BUT THE MAJOR ISSUE IS THAT WE JOINTLY HAVE
4 COMMITTED TO MAKING SURE THAT WE CONTINUE TO FIND WAYS OF
5 PROPERLY FUNDING THE 130 PSYCHIATRIC BEDS WHICH ARE A KEY PART
6 OF OUR OVERALL SYSTEM OF CARE FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.
7 WITH THAT, I WILL PAUSE --

8

9 **SUP. KNABE:** ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN I JUST ASK A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT C.H.F.
12 AND THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR -- IN ORDER TO MEET THE C.H.F.

13

14 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM?

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MMM-HMM.

17

18 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** BASICALLY THE PERSON -- THE
19 FAMILY WOULD NEED TO BE UNDER 300% OF POVERTY AND TO BE --
20 HAVE A LEGAL RESIDENCY STATUS.

21

22 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DO THEY STILL HAVE TO PAY -- FOR YOUR
23 SERVICES, DO THEY STILL HAVE TO PAY THAT PREMIUM, THE \$9 A
24 MONTH, OR IF YOU WAIVE THAT, HOW DOES THAT WORK?

25



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1 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** WE CANNOT WAIVE THE HEALTHY
2 FAMILIES PREMIUM. IT BASICALLY IS NOT PAID TO THE DEPARTMENT,
3 IT'S PAID TO THE PROGRAM AND IT ENTITLES THE CHILDREN IN THAT
4 FAMILY, NOT JUST TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FROM THE POINT OF
5 VIEW OF THE FAMILY, IT ALSO QUALIFIES THEM FOR HEALTH SERVICES
6 AND DENTAL SERVICES, SO IT'S A MUCH BIGGER HELP TO THE
7 FAMILIES THAN MERELY THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT THEY
8 WOULD QUALIFY FOR.

9

10 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** BUT YOU CARRY ON SOME OF THE OUTREACH AND
11 YOU ALSO QUALIFY THEM, THOSE WHO ARE USING YOUR SERVICES. IS
12 THAT THE WAY YOU DO IT?

13

14 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** YEAH. THE IDEA WOULD BE THAT
15 WE BELIEVE THERE ARE A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FAMILIES THAT
16 COME TO US FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT CURRENTLY HAVE
17 BASICALLY A CHOICE BETWEEN FREE SERVICES OR PAYING THE
18 PREMIUM, AND WE WOULD OFFER THEM THE CHOICE OF PAYING THE
19 PREMIUM OR NOT RECEIVING THE SERVICES IN THE FUTURE. SO KIND
20 OF PRESENTING A FORCED CHOICE. IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD
21 HAVE TO, FOR CLINICAL REASON, MAKE EXCEPTIONS TO THAT, BUT
22 GENERALLY THAT'S THE CHOICE THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE AND
23 OUR BELIEF IS THAT EVEN THOUGH WE'RE DOING THAT FOR THE
24 PURPOSES OF DEALING WITH OUR MENTAL HEALTH CURTAILMENT, THAT



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1 IT REALLY IS A BENEFIT TO FAMILIES TO HAVE THAT HEALTHCARE
2 AVAILABLE TO THE CHILDREN IN THEIR FAMILY ANYWAY.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE:** I GUESS THIS COULD BE BOTH TO BOTH MARV AND DAVID.
5 WHAT ARE WE -- HOW ARE YOU ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO REIMBURSE
6 US ON THAT -- THOSE DELAYED DOLLARS THEY OWED US, IS THERE ANY
7 OTHER STRATEGY WE'RE DOING BY OURSELVES, OR WHAT OTHER
8 COUNTIES ARE DOING, AS IT RELATES TO THE UNPAID SB-90 CLAIMS?

9

10 **C.A.O. JANSSEN:** SUPERVISOR, C.S.A.C. IS REVIEWING THE
11 POSSIBILITY OF SUING THE STATE ON THE SB-90 REIMBURSEMENT JUST
12 AS A WAY TO TRY TO GET THEM TO STOP THIS LOW COST LOAN
13 PROGRAM. I ASSUME THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET TODAY WILL CONTINUE TO
14 HAVE THAT IN IT. BEYOND THAT, THERE'S NOT MUCH ELSE WE CAN DO
15 OTHER THAN CONTINUE TO PRESS ON THEM TO AT LEAST STOP THE
16 PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY.

19

20 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** SUPERVISOR, ADDITIONALLY, WE
21 ARE TRYING TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL
22 HEALTH BY INFORMING THEM THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM
23 ACCORDING TO OUR CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL
24 HEALTH SHOULD WE FAIL TO BE REIMBURSED IN THE NEXT FISCAL



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1 YEAR. THERE'S A PERFORMANCE CONTRACT THAT WE NEED TO SIGN THAT
2 HAS A DISPUTE CLAUSE. WE'LL BE INVOKING THAT DISPUTE CLAUSE.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND COUNTY COUNSEL WILL REVIEW OUR LEGAL --

5

6 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** YES. COUNTY COUNSEL IS ALSO
7 INVOLVED BEFORE WE TAKE ANY SUCH ACTIONS.

8

9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THEN THE NEXT SPEAKERS ARE?

10

11 **SUP. KNABE:** WELL BRUCE SALTZER SIGNED UP, DR. KITA CURRY, DR.
12 SUSAN MANDEL, IN REGARDS TO...

13

14 **BRUCE SALTZER:** GOOD MORNING.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE:** GOOD MORNING.

17

18 **BRUCE SALTZER:** BEFORE I GO ON TO MY PREPARED REMARKS, I'D LIKE
19 TO MAKE JUST A COUPLE OF COMMENTS ABOUT THE HEALTHY FAMILIES
20 ISSUE THAT WAS JUST RAISED. IN THEORY, WE THINK IT'S AN
21 EXCELLENT --

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME?

24



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1 **BRUCE SALTZER:** I'M SORRY. BRUCE SALTZER, ASSOCIATION OF
2 COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES. IN THEORY, WE THINK IT'S A
3 VERY GOOD CONCEPT TO MOVE THESE FAMILIES OVER TO THAT PROGRAM.
4 IN REALITY, WE THINK IF A LOT OF THEM ARE AT SOME POINT ABLE
5 TO DO THAT AND WE THINK THAT QUITE A FEW OR LARGE, LARGE
6 NUMBERS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM IT WILL TAKE
7 QUITE A BIT OF TIME TO DO THAT, AND IF YOU LOOK EVEN IN TERMS
8 OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO MOVE PEOPLE ON TO MEDI-CAL, THE
9 EXPANSION OF THAT PROGRAM TOOK, IN TERMS OF THE LARGE, LARGE
10 NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, TWO OR THREE YEARS TO DO THAT, AND SO WE
11 STILL THINK THAT THERE WILL BE, FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR, A CUT OF
12 PROBABLY AT LEAST 4 TO \$5 MILLION THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE
13 IN TERMS OF THAT PROGRAM UNTIL EVEN A SMALL PORTION OF THOSE
14 FAMILIES COULD BE MOVED ON TO THE PROGRAM. SO I JUST WANTED TO
15 ADDRESS THAT FIRST.

16

17 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU HAVE TO QUALIFY AS A PROVIDER
18 UNDER WHATEVER PLAN THEY HAVE IN ORDER TO QUALIFY? DO YOU HAVE
19 TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THEIR?

20

21 **BRUCE SALTZER:** WELL OUR AGENCIES ALREADY DO A LOT OF WORK TO
22 GET THESE FAMILIES ON TO -- ON TO THE PROGRAM, AND THEY DO
23 PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER THAT PROGRAM. BUT AGAIN,
24 THERE'S LARGE NUMBERS THAT JUST DON'T QUALIFY, AND, YOU KNOW,
25 I'VE TALKED TO A NUMBER OF AGENCIES THAT SAY, "GEE, WE'RE



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1 WORKING ON IT, IT'S JUST WE -- THERE'S JUST A LOT OF BARRIERS
2 TO BEING ABLE TO DO THAT." SO AGAIN, IT'S -- IN THEORY, WE
3 AGREE WITH THE CONCEPT, IN PRACTICALITY, WE DON'T THINK IT'S
4 GOING TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM FOR NEXT YEAR. NOW TO MY PREPARED
5 MARKS. HUNDREDS IF NOT THOUSANDS OF UNINSURED CHILDREN WITH
6 SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES ARE SLATED TO HAVE THEIR MENTAL
7 HEALTH TREATMENT ELIMINATED AS PART OF NEXT FISCAL YEAR'S
8 COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET, AS WE HAVE MENTIONED, TO THE TUNE
9 OF \$4.5 MILLION. THESE CUTS NOW BEING PROPOSED FOLLOW ALMOST
10 \$9 MILLION IN CURTAILMENTS, OUR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
11 AGENCIES WERE FORCED TO TAKE THIS CURRENT FISCAL YEAR,
12 PRIMARILY DIRECTED AT UNINSURED CHILDREN AND ADULTS. THE \$4.5
13 MILLION IN PROPOSED CUTS FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN FOR NEXT
14 FISCAL YEAR ALSO DOES NOT INCLUDE ANOTHER \$9 MILLION THAT
15 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES ARE NOW TARGETED TO LOSE AS A
16 RESULT OF LOST COUNTY TOBACCO REVENUES AND A.B.-3632 FUNDING
17 FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS. THIS IS A BLEAK
18 PICTURE INDEED. THE SADDEST PART OF THIS PICTURE IS THAT THE
19 PROPOSED \$4.5 MILLION IN CHILDREN'S PROGRAM CURTAILMENTS ARE
20 COMPLETELY PREVENTABLE. I'LL REPEAT THAT. COMPLETELY
21 PREVENTABLE. IN FACT, THIS MONEY IS BEING PROPOSED TO BE CUT
22 EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST FROM BUDGETS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCIES,
23 DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
24 ACTUALLY HAS THIS MONEY AVAILABLE IN SAVINGS IN ITS BUDGET. I
25 MUST SADLY STATE THAT IN THE MORE THAN 12 YEARS THAT I HAVE



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1 BEEN AN ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN THIS
2 COUNTY, THIS BOLD MOVE IS UNPRECEDENTED. IN FACT, THE COUNTY
3 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH IS TO BE APPLAUDED FOR INITIALLY
4 PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR WHICH
5 INCLUDED NO CUTS IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL
6 CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN THIS COUNTY. THAT
7 BUDGET WAS REJECTED AND A \$10 MILLION BUDGET CURTAILMENT WAS
8 CREATED TO REDUCE THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FUTURE
9 ALLIANCE ON THE USE OF ONE-TIME MONEY. THIS IS MONEY THAT
10 D.M.H. CONTINUES TO HAVE AVAILABLE WHICH COULD BE USED TO
11 ELIMINATE ALL OF THE \$4.5 MILLION IN PROPOSED CUTS FOR
12 INDIGENT CHILDREN SERVED BY OUR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
13 AGENCIES. OUR ASSOCIATION DOES NOT WISH TO IGNORE THE COUNTY'S
14 NEED FOR FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND
15 THE VERY DIFFICULT ROLE PLAYED BY THOSE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT
16 WHOSE JOB IT IS TO MANAGE THE OVERALL COUNTY BUDGET. MORE
17 IMPORTANTLY, WE CANNOT AND DO NOT WISH TO IGNORE THE AWFUL
18 SITUATION THAT THE COUNTY FINDS ITSELF IN WITH RESPECT TO THE
19 COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST EMPHASIZE
20 THAT D.M.H. IS NOT IN THE SAME SITUATION, THAT THE COUNTY
21 HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN IN OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, WITH
22 ITS HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF PROJECTED DEFICITS AND
23 PRIOR YEAR BAIL-OUTS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT AN END. FOR
24 MANY YEARS, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, AS WELL AS
25 OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, HAVE RELIED ON ONE-TIME REVENUES FOR



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1 AT LEAST A PORTION OF THEIR BUDGETS. IN FACT, TO SOME DEGREE,
2 ALL COUNTY BUDGETS ARE BUILT SIGNIFICANTLY ON ONE-TIME
3 REVENUES. SINCE WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE RARELY ANY HARD AND FAST
4 GUARANTEES THAT MONEY AVAILABLE ONE YEAR WILL ALSO BE
5 AVAILABLE THE NEXT. AT THE SAME TIME, ACCORDING TO MENTAL
6 HEALTH IS BUDGET FIGURES, IN FISCAL YEAR 1999/2000, D.M.H.
7 UTILIZED \$74 MILLION IN ONE-TIME REVENUES AS PART OF A TOTAL
8 BUDGET OF \$771 MILLION, OR ABOUT 10% OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
9 BUDGET. FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR, EVEN IF, EVEN IF THE \$10
10 MILLION PROPOSED FOR CURTAILMENT WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
11 DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET FOR CONTINUED CARE, THE AMOUNT OF ONE-TIME
12 REVENUES INCLUDED WOULD EQUAL ONLY \$46 MILLION, OUT OF A TOTAL
13 BUDGET OF \$1.066 BILLION, OR A LITTLE OVER 3% OF THE
14 DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET. THAT'S ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE PERCENTAGE
15 OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OVERALL BUDGET OF FOUR YEARS AGO. AND SO
16 WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF
17 SUPERVISORS, CONSIDER YOUR ABILITY TO STOP THESE REAL, ALBEIT
18 PREVENTABLE, TERRIBLE CUTS TO LARGE NUMBERS OF UNINSURED
19 CHILDREN IN GREAT NEED, AND BALANCE AGAINST YOUR DESIRE TO
20 RESOLVE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM LATER ON WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT
21 MATERIALIZE. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE
22 NECESSARY ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD IS A RELATIVELY EASY
23 ONE: RESTORE THE \$4.5 MILLION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR
24 CONSIDERATION.

25



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. DR. CURRY?

2

3 **DR. KITA CURRY:** I'M UP NEXT RIGHT. I'M DR. KITA CURRY AND I'M
4 THE PRESIDENT OF D.D. HIRSCH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER AS
5 WELL AS THE HEAD OF THE BOARD OF A.C.H.S.A. BUT I DON'T SPEAK
6 HERE JUST FOR MY AGENCY AND THE CHILDREN WE SERVE; I'M
7 SPEAKING FOR THE DOZENS OF OTHER AGENCIES THAT PROVIDE 75% OF
8 THE SERVICES, THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO CHILDREN IN THIS
9 COUNTY. AND I WANT TO START OUT BY SAYING THAT I CONSIDERED
10 MYSELF LUCKY TO LIVE AND WORK IN A COUNTY WHERE I KNOW THAT
11 EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE SUPERVISORS GENUINELY CARES ABOUT
12 THE WELL BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND I KNOW AS BRUCE SAID,
13 THAT YOU'VE HAD TO MAKE WRENCHING DECISIONS THIS YEAR WHERE
14 YOUR CHOICE ISN'T HOW MUCH GOOD YOU CAN DO, BUT HOW LITTLE
15 HARM CAN YOU DO. AND I CANNOT QUESTION THE GENERAL LOGIC OF
16 MAKING A DECISION TO DENY SERVICES TO UNINSURED CHILDREN SO
17 THAT -- AND TO LIMIT SERVICES TO CHILDREN THAT HAVE MEDI-CAL
18 AND HEALTHY FAMILIES, EVEN THOUGH THAT DOES CAUSE HARM. BUT
19 WHAT I DO QUESTION IS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CUT AND THE
20 MAGNITUDE OF THE IMPACT IT'S GOING TO HAVE. THESE CUTS TRULY
21 WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SERVE FOR, AT LEAST FOR PROVIDERS,
22 TO SERVE CHILDREN WHO DON'T ALREADY HAVE MEDI-CAL OR HEALTHY
23 FAMILIES. IT TAKES TIME TO GET HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND IN THAT
24 INTERIM, EXCUSE ME, WE NEED MONEY TO SERVE THE CHILDREN. ALSO,
25 IF ONE MONTH, A FAMILY HAS A TERRIBLE, UNEXPECTED COST, MAYBE



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1 THEIR CAR BREAKS DOWN AND THE PARENT CAN'T GET TO WORK WITHOUT
2 IT, IF THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY THEIR PREMIUM FOR HEALTHY
3 FAMILIES THAT MONTH, THEY WON'T BE COVERED AND THEY WOULD
4 TECHNICALLY NOT BE ABLE TO BE SERVED BY US BECAUSE THIS CUT
5 ELIMINATES ALL SERVICES TO CHILDREN THAT DON'T HAVE THOSE TWO
6 FORMS OF INSURANCE. SO WHAT I AM ARGUING IS THAT WE NEED SOME
7 MONEY. WE CANNOT TAKE A \$4.5 MILLION CUT, WHICH IS HALF OF THE
8 PROPOSED CUT, EVEN THOUGH WE PROVIDE 75% OF THE SERVICES TO
9 CHILDREN, WE CANNOT TAKE THAT CUT WITHOUT IT REALLY HAVING
10 DEVASTATING IMPACT. AND JUST TO GIVE YOU A PICTURE OF THESE
11 CHILDREN, I LOOKED AT THE CHILDREN WE NOW SERVE WHO DO NOT
12 HAVE MEDI-CAL OR HEALTHY FAMILIES. ALL BUT THREE ARE LATINO OR
13 AFRICAN-AMERICAN. MORE THAN A THIRD ARE FROM MONOLINGUAL
14 FAMILIES. TWO-THIRDS LIVE IN HIGH-NEED AREAS. THE PICO UNION
15 AREA, SOUTH LOS ANGELES, AND INGLEWOOD. THREE-QUARTERS ARE 10
16 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER, AND JUST LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THREE OF
17 THOSE FAMILIES. FOUR BOYS BETWEEN THE AGE OF FIVE AND 13 YEARS
18 OLD WITNESS, OH MY GOSH, WITNESS THE -- [COUGHING] -- I'M
19 FINE. I SOUND TERRIBLE. FOUR BOYS BETWEEN THE AGE OF FIVE AND
20 13 YEARS OLD WITNESSED THE SHOOTING OF THEIR MOTHER AT A
21 PARTY. RIGHT NOW THEY DON'T HAVE MEDI-CAL AND THEY DON'T HAVE
22 HEALTHY FAMILIES. WE ARE WORKING ON SIGNING THEM UP, ON
23 HELPING THEIR FATHER GET BENEFITS, BUT THEY CAN'T WAIT UNTIL
24 THEY HAVE THAT COVERAGE TO BE SERVED. ANOTHER FAMILY, A
25 MONOLINGUAL SPANISH-SPEAKING MOTHER WAS REFERRED TO US BY THE



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1 SCHOOL AFTER HER 13-YEAR-OLD SON TOLD A FRIEND HE WAS PLANNING
2 TO SHOOT HIMSELF, TO KILL HIMSELF, IN A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY. SHE
3 BELIEVES SHE WILL QUALIFY FOR HEALTHY FAMILIES BUT SHE DOESN'T
4 HAVE IT RIGHT NOW AND SHE NEEDS OUR SERVICES. AND LAST, THERE
5 WAS A WORKING POOR FAMILY WITH A TEENAGE BOY WHO WAS PSYCHOTIC
6 AND DELUSIONAL. THERE WAS NO WAY THAT THEY COULD AFFORD THE
7 THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IT COSTS TO GET MEDICATION AND
8 PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION. THEY HAD TO BE SERVED BY US. BUT NOW
9 THE FATHER HAS A JOB WHERE HE'S CHANGED JOBS AND HE'S GOING TO
10 GET HEALTH INSURANCE AND THEY'RE GOING TO TRANSITION OUT OF
11 OUR CARE. WE NEED TO HAVE MONEY TO SERVE THESE CHILDREN, AND I
12 WILL END BY TELLING YOU THAT 8% OF TEENAGERS IN LOS ANGELES
13 ADMIT THEY HAVE MADE A SUICIDE ATTEMPT. THAT'S THREE TEENAGERS
14 IN EVERY CLASS OF 36. I UNDERSTAND WE HAVE TO MAKE HARD
15 DECISIONS AND WE WANT TO HAVE SOFT LANDINGS IN THE FUTURE IF
16 THERE ARE DEFICITS, BUT WE NEED A SOFT LANDING FOR SOME OF
17 THESE VERY YOUNG AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN. THANK YOU.

18

19 **GLADYS LEE:** GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISOR BURKE, CHAIRMAN OF THE
20 BOARD, AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. I'M NOT SUSAN MANDEL, EVEN
21 THOUGH I WORK FOR HER, SUSAN -- DR. MANDEL IS UP IN SACRAMENTO
22 THIS MORNING AND I AM ASKED TO TAKE HER PLACE. I AM THE CHIEF
23 PROFESSIONAL OFFICER AT PACIFIC CLINICS, MY NAME IS GLADYS
24 LEE. OVER THE LAST 20-PLUS YEARS, I HAVE COME BEFORE YOU ON
25 MANY, MANY OCCASIONS TO SEEK YOUR SUPPORT, TO PRESERVE MENTAL



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1 HEALTH SERVICES TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC
2 DIFFICULTIES. WHAT WE ARE FACING TODAY IS BEYOND ANYTHING I
3 HAVE EXPERIENCED AS AN ADVOCATE FOR THESE MANY YEARS. THESE
4 ARE INDEED EXTRAORDINARY TIMES THAT REQUIRE ALL OF US, PUBLIC
5 LEADERS SUCH AS YOURSELVES, POLICY MAKERS, PROVIDERS SUCH AS
6 PACIFIC CLINICS, ADVOCACY GROUPS, CONSUMERS, AND FAMILY
7 MEMBERS OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM, TO COME TOGETHER TO DO
8 THE BEST WE CAN TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND WEATHER THE STORM
9 WITH THE BEST THOUGHT-OUT PLAN POSSIBLE TO MEET THE GROWING
10 BUDGET PROBLEMS WE FACE HERE IN CALIFORNIA AND LOS ANGELES
11 COUNTY. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I COME BEFORE YOU TO PRESENT
12 AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE BUDGET CURTAILMENTS AS PROPOSED BY
13 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH. PACIFIC CLINICS IS THE LARGEST
14 CONTRACTOR WITH L.A. COUNTY D.M.H. WE PROVIDE THOUSANDS OF
15 HOURS OF SERVICES TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, OLDER
16 ADULTS AND FAMILIES IN SERVICE AREA THREE OF THE LOS ANGELES
17 COUNTY. D.M.H. HAS INFORMED US THAT WE WILL BE CURTAILED BY
18 ANOTHER 700,000 IN COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS FOR THE NEXT FISCAL
19 YEAR. THIS REPRESENTS 41% OF PACIFIC CLINIC'S INDIGENT CARE
20 BUDGET FOR SERIOUSLY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED CHILDREN. IN
21 SERVICE AREA THREE PACIFIC CLINICS IS THE SAFETY NET PROVIDER
22 FOR UNINSURED KIDS. THE ONLY COUNTY-OPERATED CLINIC, ARCADIA
23 MENTAL HEALTH, IS AN ADULT CLINIC, AND MACLAREN IS NOW CLOSED.
24 WHILE 700,000 MIGHT SEEM PALE TO THE MASSIVE BUDGET PROBLEMS
25 WE ARE FACING, IT DOES TRANSLATE TO HUNDREDS OF VERY SICK KIDS



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1 LEFT WITHOUT SERVICES. WE ALL KNOW THEY JUST WON'T DISAPPEAR.
2 THEY WILL BLEED THE SYSTEM BY USING MORE EXPENSIVE SERVICES
3 SUCH AS IN-PATIENT CARE OR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THESE
4 ARE KIDS WITH MULTIPLE PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES, INCLUDING
5 MENTAL ILLNESS, CONDUCT DISORDERS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, AND DUAL
6 DIAGNOSIS. EVERY YEAR FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, D.M.H. HAS
7 ROLLED OVER AND SPENT DOLLARS TO THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR. WE
8 AT PACIFIC CLINICS THINK THERE ARE STILL WAYS FOR D.M.H. TO
9 LOOK FURTHER INTO THEIR BUDGET, TO FIND OTHER ALTERNATIVES
10 BEFORE CLOSING VITAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS TO THE MOST
11 VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF THIS COUNTY. CHILDREN WHO, THROUGH NO
12 FAULT OF THEIR OWN, ARE BURDENED WITH MANY MENTAL HEALTH
13 BARRIERS TO THEIR SUCCESS IN SCHOOL, AT HOME, AND IN THE
14 COMMUNITY. THEY ARE THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND THEY
15 NEED TO BE SPARED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM LOSING SUPPORT THAT
16 CAN MEAN LIFE OR DEATH FOR SOME OF THEM AND THE CHANCE FOR A
17 BETTER FUTURE FOR MOST. LAST FISCAL YEAR, PACIFIC CLINICS TOOK
18 A 1.1 MILLION C.G.F. REDUCTION IN OUR ADULT SERVICES. SINCE
19 OCTOBER 2001, WE HAVE HAD TO TURN AWAY OVER 1500 CALLERS,
20 REFERRALS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SERVICE AREA THREE.
21 THE LOSS OF TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS THIS PAST DECEMBER HAS
22 ELIMINATED THE CAPACITY OF OUR ASIAN/PACIFIC FAMILY CENTER TO
23 SERVE INDIGENT ADULTS AND CHILDREN, WHO ARE FREQUENTLY
24 MONOLINGUAL AND REQUIRE SPECIALIZED LINGUISTIC AND CULTURALLY
25 APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS TO STAY OUT OF THE HOSPITALS.



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1 UNDERSERVED IMMIGRANT FAMILIES WILL BE IMPACTED THE MOST.
2 THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS BOARD TO AVERT THE CURRENT
3 BUDGET CURTAILMENTS FOR UNINSURED KIDS IN THE SERVICE AREA
4 WHERE THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THEM. PLEASE
5 MAKE THIS HAPPEN. THANK YOU.

6

7 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YOU KNOW, I WOULD JUST HAVE ONE COMMENT. IT
8 WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT, WITH THE KIND OF A DONATION BASE THAT
9 YOU HAVE AND SOME OF THE KIND OF MONEYS THAT ARE AVAILABLE, IT
10 WOULD MAKE SENSE TO TRY TO IDENTIFY SOME FUNDS TO HELP WITH
11 THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO PAY THEIR PREMIUM FOR HEALTHY
12 FAMILIES, AND I KNOW THERE'S, YOU KNOW, THE FIRST FIVE THAT
13 I'VE JUST STARTED WORKING WITH THEM AND IT SEEMS LOGICAL THAT
14 THEY WOULD BE HELPING FOR THE VERY YOUNG CHILDREN TO PROVIDE
15 SOME ASSISTANCE. MY UNDERSTANDING IS, FOR INSTANCE, L.A. CARE
16 CANNOT DO THAT, THEY CAN'T PROVIDE THE PREMIUMS. THAT WE CAN'T
17 PROVIDE THE PREMIUMS. BUT THEY HAVE TO BE PROVIDED SEPARATE
18 AND APART, AND I RECOGNIZE THE PREMIUMS, IT'S A BIG ISSUE AND
19 THAT'S THE REASON WHY YOU DON'T HAVE AS MANY OF THE CHILDREN
20 WHO REMAIN ON HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND FOR THIS ALTERNATIVE TO
21 WORK, THERE HAS TO BE SOME STRATEGY TO GET THOSE PREMIUMS
22 PAID, AND I WOULD JUST HOPE THAT EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER TO
23 TRY TO ARRIVE AT THIS -- A STRATEGY BECAUSE WE MAY OR MAY NOT
24 HAVE THE MONEY TO PUT IT IN. YOU KNOW, WE HAVE TO FACE SOME
25 REALITIES TODAY.



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1

BRUCE SALTZER: I UNDERSTAND. OUR AGENCIES, JUST SO YOU KNOW,
AND WE'VE -- I'VE DONE A SURVEY IN THE PAST, CONTRIBUTE TENS
OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF UNCOMPENSATED CARE TO THE MENTAL
HEALTH PROGRAMS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT'S NOT LIKE
THEY HAVE ADDITIONAL MONEY THAT IS NOT BEING SPENT ALREADY TO
SERVE THE INDIGENT POPULATION THAT WE CAN'T ALREADY SEE TODAY.
SO AGAIN, AS WE'VE SAID BEFORE, WE'RE TURNING WAY PEOPLE, THE
INDIGENT CHILDREN AND ADULTS THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE CAPACITY
TO SEE EVEN WITH THE TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF
UNCOMPENSATED CARE THAT WE CONTRIBUTE TODAY. SO EVERY DOLLAR
THAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE IS BEING SPENT IN THAT VEIN.

13

SUP. BURKE, CHAIR: WELL I GUESS WHAT I'M SAYING REALLY IS THAT
MAYBE YOU CAN TURN SOME OF THAT UNCOMPENSATED CARE INTO
COMPENSATED CARE BY DIRECTING THOSE DOLLARS INTO PREMIUMS FOR
HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND WELL WE'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AT
DIFFERENT ALTERNATIVES, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AT
SOME METHODS OF TRYING TO SOLVE SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS,
BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW THAT WE CAN JUST SAY, "OKAY, AND NO
MATTER HOW SYMPATHETIC WE ARE, HOW MUCH WE REALLY WANT TO DO
THESE THINGS, WE HAVE TOUGH TIMES.

23

BRUCE SALTZER: I UNDERSTAND.

25



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** AND WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM -- AT 11:00,
2 WE'RE GOING TO START HEARING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET. SOMEHOW I
3 SUSPECT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE GOOD NEWS.

4

5 **BRUCE SALTZER:** JUST TO REINFORCE ONE THING TOO THOUGH, AGAIN
6 THIS -- AT LEAST THERE'S 10 MILLION AND WE'RE ASKING FOR 4.5,
7 THAT MONEY IS AVAILABLE TO BE GIVEN TO AGENCIES THIS YEAR.
8 IT'S IN THE BUDGET, IT'S BEING SAVED FOR A RAINY DAY AT THESE
9 POINT. AND I UNDERSTAND, YOU KNOW, THE CONCERNS FROM THE
10 COUNTY SIDE ABOUT THAT, BUT WE HAVE A REAL CRISIS TODAY THAT
11 WE'RE FACING, AND THAT'S OUR MAIN POINT. THE MONEY IS
12 AVAILABLE, IT CAN BE SPENT, IT'S NOT LIKE THE COUNTY HAS TO GO
13 AND TAKE MONEY FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE. MENTAL HEALTH HAS THAT
14 MONEY IN ITS BUDGET. IT CAN BE SPENT FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND
15 THAT'S OUR ARGUMENT.

16

17 **GLADYS LEE:** AND ALSO TO RESPOND TO YOUR SUGGESTION, SUPERVISOR
18 BURKE, OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT PACIFIC CLINICS LAST MONTH
19 APPROVED THAT WE USE WHATEVER FUNDS WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THE
20 PREMIUMS, BECAUSE IN OUR EXPERIENCE TRYING TO SIGN OUR
21 FAMILIES UP WITH HEALTHY FAMILIES, THE PREMIUM IS A MAJOR
22 BARRIER, SO WE ARE DOING WHAT YOU SUGGESTED, BUT WE DO LIKE TO
23 SUPPORT WHAT BRUCE SAID. WE CAN SOFTEN THE IMPACT OF THE
24 PROPOSED CUTS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR BECAUSE THERE IS SAVINGS
25 IN THE D.M.H. BUDGET. THAT WOULD GIVE US A WHOLE YEAR TO DO



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1 THE BEST WE CAN TO GET AS MANY FOLKS AS POSSIBLE SIGNED UP
2 WITH HEALTH FAMILIES WITH US PAYING THE PREMIUMS FOR THEM.
3 THANK YOU.

4

5 **BRUCE SALTZER:** AND IF I CAN MAKE ONE FINAL POINT. YOU KNOW,
6 WE'VE HEARD BEFORE AND WE UNDERSTAND THIS THAT EVERYONE HAS TO
7 ACCEPT THE PAIN OF THE BUDGET. EVEN IF THIS MONEY IS RESTORED,
8 THERE WILL BE PAIN FOR OUR AGENCY SINCE WE WILL NOT HAVE
9 ALMOST \$10 MILLION OF TOBACCO MONEY THAT WE HAD THIS YEAR THAT
10 WENT TO SERVING SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF UNINSURED CHILDREN AS
11 WELL AS OVER \$3 MILLION OF A.B.-3632 FUNDS FOR CHILDREN WITH
12 SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS. SO IT IS NOT LIKE OUR AGENCIES ARE
13 ALSO NOT HAVING TO ACCEPT SOME PAIN IN THE UPCOMING FISCAL
14 YEAR IN TERMS OF OUR BUDGET, SO WE DO --

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE UNDERSTAND THAT.

17

18 **BRUCE SALTZER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. AND YOU ALL DO A GREAT JOB.

21

22 **BRUCE SALTZER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

23

24 **GLADYS LEE:** THANK YOU.

25



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. PARKS AND REC IS NEXT AND MR.
2 GALLAGHER, IS HE HERE?

3

4 **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** GOOD MORNING MADAM CHAIR
5 AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, TIM GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND
6 RECREATION. I JUST WANT TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES OF YOUR TIME TO
7 BRIEFLY DISCUSS SOME OF CURTAILMENTS THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE
8 UPCOMING PROPOSED BUDGET, SPECIFICALLY THE TRANSFER OF STATE-
9 OWNED CASTAIC LAKE AND PLACERITA CANYON BACK TO THE STATE OF
10 CALIFORNIA AND THE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAIL CREW. OVER THE
11 PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TAKING MEASURES
12 TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OUR EMPLOYEES AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
13 FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE STATE-OWNED FACILITIES BACK TO THE
14 STATE FOR THEIR OPERATION AND THE CURTAILMENT OF THE TRAIL
15 CREW TO BE EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1ST. WE'VE HAD NUMEROUS MEETINGS
16 WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, BOTH
17 ONSITE AT CASTAIC AND OFF-SITE REGARDING TRANSFER ISSUES. WHAT
18 WE TRIED TO DO AND IN LOOKING AT POTENTIAL CURTAILMENTS IS TO
19 LOOK AT WHAT FACILITIES WE HAD THAT COULD, IN EVERY POTENTIAL
20 OPPORTUNITY, REMAIN OPEN, MAINTAINED AND/OR OPERATED BY OTHER
21 PUBLIC AGENCIES. OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF CLOSING
22 PARKS, WE'RE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING PUBLIC SERVICE AND
23 SO WE BELIEVE, UNDER SOME DIRE SITUATIONS HERE FINANCIALLY,
24 WE'VE COME UP WITH SOME POSSIBILITIES THAT COULD BE PUT
25 FORWARD THAT WOULD MEET THOSE NEEDS. WE CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS



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1 WITH STATE PARKS, AS I SAID, AND LOCAL AND STATE
2 REPRESENTATIVES TO POTENTIALLY IDENTIFY FUNDING SOURCES FOR
3 THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF STATE-OWNED FACILITIES,
4 SPECIFICALLY CASTAIC LAKE. ANY OPTIMISM THAT I MIGHT HAVE
5 ABOUT SECURING THOSE FUNDS IS ALWAYS VERY CAUTIOUS,
6 CONSIDERING THE STATE BUDGET PROCESS AND THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT
7 WOULD HAVE TO OCCUR BETWEEN THE VARIOUS POLITICAL BODIES TO
8 SECURE THE NECESSARY VOTES TO SECURE THAT STATE BUDGET. WE
9 HAVE IDENTIFIED SOME SOURCES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND
10 RECREATION THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE USED BUT OF COURSE THAT'S
11 TIED TO THE BUDGET PROCESS, AND AGAIN, I CAUTION ANY OPTIMISM
12 ON THAT. AS FAR AS PLACERITA CANYON, A NATURAL AREA, WE HAVE
13 HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH TWO OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHO
14 HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN POTENTIALLY KEEPING THOSE
15 FACILITIES OPEN AFTER JULY 1ST IF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
16 CANNOT CONTINUE OPERATION AFTER THAT TIME FRAME. REGARDING THE
17 TRAIL CREW AND THE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAIL CREW, WE HAVE
18 ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS GOING WITH THE L.A. CONSERVATION CORPS,
19 WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE UP TO A QUARTER OF A MILLION
20 DOLLARS IN TRAIL MAINTENANCE SERVICES IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR
21 TO THE DEPARTMENT. WE HAVE BEGUN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
22 CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS WHO TRADITIONALLY DO TRAIL
23 MAINTENANCE FOR PUBLIC AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE. AND THE
24 BOTTOM LINE IS WE ARE NOT CLOSING ANY TRAILS, WE ARE SIMPLY
25 ABSORBING THE MAINTENANCE OF THOSE TRAILS IN WITH THE



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1 REMAINING STAFF THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT. TRAILS IS
2 ONE OF THE PROGRAMS THAT WE DO HAVE THAT IRONICALLY COULD RELY
3 MORE ON VOLUNTEER SERVICES THAN ANY OTHER PROGRAM. THE SIMPLE
4 ANALOGY IS IT'S EASIER TO MAINTAIN A TRAIL WITH VOLUNTEERS
5 THAN IT WOULD BE TO HAVE VOLUNTEERS KEEP SWIMMING POOLS OPEN,
6 PROVIDING LIFEGUARD SERVICES, CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, AND
7 MAINTAINING THE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT. BUT I HAVE TO CAUTION
8 THE BOARD ALSO THAT EVERY TIME WE TAKE AN ADDITIONAL DECLINE
9 IN THE NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE STAFF THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE
10 DEPARTMENT AND ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE DUTY IS ABSORBED BY THE
11 REMAINING STAFF, OUR ENTIRE MAINTENANCE LEVEL CONTINUES TO
12 DECLINE AND WE'RE ALREADY AT A LEVEL WHERE WE'RE CURRENTLY NOT
13 PROVIDING BASIC SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.
14 AGAIN, WE BELIEVE WE'VE PUT FORWARD -- UNFORTUNATELY, WE'VE
15 PUT FORWARD SOME FACILITIES THAT WE WOULD LOVE TO KEEP OPEN
16 AND CONTINUE TO SEE GROW AND PROVIDE TO THE PUBLIC, BUT WE
17 BELIEVE THERE ARE OPTIONS HERE WITH THE STATE-OWNED FACILITIES
18 AND WITH THE TRAILS CREW TO CONTINUE KEEPING THEM OPEN,
19 MAINTAINED, AND/OR OPERATED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES. THAT
20 CONCLUDES MY COMMENTS, AND IF THERE'S ANY QUESTIONS, I'D BE
21 GLAD TO GIVE THEM AT THIS TIME.

22
23 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WHAT ABOUT THE ISSUE OF LIABILITY RELATIVE TO
24 THE TRAILS?



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1 **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** THE ISSUE WITH LIABILITY
2 IS BASICALLY THE SAME THAT WE HAVE WITH ANY OTHER MAINTENANCE
3 ACTIVITY WE HAVE IN OUR PARKS, THAT WE HAVE TO BE COGNIZANT OF
4 THE SAFETY FACTORS THAT WE HAVE TO ADDRESS FIRST, AND WE'RE
5 VERY AWARE OF THAT AND THAT'S THE FIRST ACTION THAT ANY
6 MAINTENANCE PERSON WILL DO IN A PARK SITUATION OR A TRAIL
7 SITUATION, IS TO ASSESS WHAT POTENTIAL PROBLEMS WE HAVE. IF WE
8 KNOW THERE'S AN ISSUE, WE HAVE TO GET IT CORRECTED.

9

10 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO RELATIVE TO THE MAINTENANCE ISSUE, YOU'RE
11 STILL GOING TO HAVE A LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE TO PRECLUDE ANY
12 POTENTIAL LIABILITY CASES.

13

14 **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** CORRECT. AS I MENTIONED,
15 THE MAINTENANCE LEVEL WILL -- OR THE MAINTENANCE WILL CONTINUE
16 TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE REMAINING EMPLOYEES AND
17 WE'RE ALSO GOING TO BE WORKING WITH L.A. CONSERVATION CORPS TO
18 PROVIDE UP TO A QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS IN ADDITIONAL
19 MAINTENANCE NEXT FISCAL YEAR AT OUR TRAILS.

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ANY QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERS? Q.A. MEMBERS FROM
22 THE COMMUNITY THAT ARE HERE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY BROWN, MARY
23 BARRIE AND LIZ BLACKWELDER. GOOD MORNING. JUST GIVE YOUR NAME
24 BEFORE YOU SPEAK PLEASE.

25



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1 **GREG BROWN:** GOOD MORNING SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH. MY NAME IS
2 GREG BROWN, I'M A CITY COUNCILMAN IN THE CITY OF LA CANADA-
3 FLINTRIDGE. WE'RE HERE TO ADDRESS THIS MORNING THE PROPOSED
4 CUTS ON THE TRAIL BUDGET, SOMETHING OF VERY SIGNIFICANT IMPORT
5 TO OUR CITY AND MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORING CITIES. WE WANT TO
6 PARTICULARLY POINT OUT THE FACT THAT WE'RE TALKING HERE ABOUT
7 THE COMPLETE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAILS CREW. THIS IS A CREW
8 THAT, SINCE 1990, HAS ALREADY BEEN CUT TWICE. IT'S MUCH
9 SMALLER THAN IT WAS, BUT IT STILL PROVIDES A VERY IMPORTANT
10 SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY, AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO
11 HIGHLIGHT THAT WE'RE NOT TALKING HERE ABOUT MAINTENANCE OF,
12 YOU KNOW, CUTTING WEEDS AND PICKING UP TRASH; WE'RE TALKING
13 ABOUT ACTUALLY MAINTAINING THIS ASSET, BECAUSE THESE TRAILS
14 DO, AS IS WELL KNOWN, THESE TRAILS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH RAIN
15 WASHING THEM OUT AND WE'RE ACTUALLY TALKING HERE ABOUT
16 MAINTAINING A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR ASSET. THIS ISN'T JUST
17 ALLOWING DEFERRED MAINTENANCE, FOR INSTANCE, WITH, YOU KNOW,
18 PAINT THAT IS GOING TO PEEL ON A BUILDING. WE'RE TALKING HERE
19 ABOUT ACTUALLY LOSING SEGMENTS OF THE TRAIL. THIS IS A
20 SPECIALIZED NEED. THERE'S SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT, IT'S A
21 SPECIALIZED CREW THAT HAS KNOWLEDGE. THE CITY OF LA CANADA AND
22 OTHER CITIES REFER TO THIS CREW FOR THAT EXPERTISE, AND THAT'S
23 GOING TO BE LOST IF THIS FUNCTION IS TOTALLY -- IS JUST
24 ABSORBED INTO THE GENERAL MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENTS. THERE'S
25 ALSO THE ISSUE OF LIABILITY THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT



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1 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH RAISED BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THESE
2 TRAILS DO NEED ACTUAL STRUCTURAL WORK ON A REGULAR BASIS AND
3 THEY NEED THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT THAT IS MAINTAINED BY THE
4 COUNTY. ALSO, IN TERMS OF SERVICE, WE GET EXCELLENT SERVICE
5 FROM -- WE HAVE ONE PLACE WE CAN CALL WHEN WE HAVE A NEED AND
6 THOSE NEEDS ARE SOMETIMES URGENT BECAUSE OF THE LIABILITY
7 ISSUES AND WE CAN CALL THE TRAILS CREW AND KNOW WHO TO GET IN
8 TOUCH WITH AND GET THAT SERVICE. SO WE UNDERSTAND, WE'RE ALL
9 HURTING IN TERMS OF ON THE BUDGET FRONT, BUT HERE WE HAVE A
10 DEPARTMENT OF 1150 EMPLOYEES PROPOSED FOR NEXT YEAR, AND YET
11 WE'VE TARGETED THIS ONE AREA FOR COMPLETE ELIMINATION. THE
12 CITY OF LA CANADA HAS PASSED A RESOLUTION, A UNANIMOUS
13 RESOLUTION FROM OUR CITY COUNCIL WHICH WE'D LIKE TO MAKE
14 AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FOR YOUR REVIEW, AND
15 IT'S TRULY OUR CONCERN IS THE ELIMINATION OF THIS ENTIRE
16 DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN SPREADING THE PAIN, IF YOU WILL,
17 THROUGHOUT THE DEPARTMENTS. THANK YOU.

18
19 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. YES?

20
21 **MARY BARRIE:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MARY BARRIE. I'M THE
22 PRESIDENT OF THE LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE TRAILS COUNCIL AND I'M
23 ALSO HERE TO SPEAK IN OPPOSITION TO THE ELIMINATION OF THE
24 TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW. FOR 30 YEARS SINCE 1974, THE TRAILS
25 COUNCIL HAS GIVEN BOTH VOLUNTEER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HELP



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1 THE COMPANY MAINTAIN OUR WONDERFUL TRAILS IN LA CANADA. IN
2 1991, THE TRAILS CREW WAS CUT FROM 15 MEN TO NINE MEN, AND WE
3 STRUGGLED ALONG WITH THE CREW TO KEEP THE TRAILS SAFE AND WELL
4 GROOMED. SO WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENS. WE KNOW MORE THAN
5 MOST WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRAIL
6 MAINTENANCE IS SHIFTED AMONG VARIOUS DIFFERENT DIVISIONS, ALL
7 OF WHOM HAVE DIFFERENT -- MANY, MANY DIFFERENT DUTIES TO
8 ATTEND TO. AND WE ALSO KNOW FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, AND
9 WE'RE THE VOLUNTEERS THAT MR. GALLAGHER WAS TALKING ABOUT. FOR
10 30 YEARS, WE'VE BEEN VOLUNTEERING, AND WE KNOW HOW QUICKLY
11 MOUNTAIN TRAILS IN PARTICULAR DETERIORATE. THEY NEED TO BE
12 REGULARLY GRADED AND REPAIRED. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT WEED
13 WHACKING. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HEAVY EQUIPMENT THAT YOU CAN'T
14 HAVE UNTRAINED VOLUNTEERS USING. AND THIS -- THIS CREW, THE
15 CURRENT CREW, THEY'RE SOLELY DEVOTED TO TRAIL REPAIR, THEY
16 KNOW THE TRAILS WELL, THEY PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE
17 PROBLEM AREAS. THEY SAVE THE COUNTY MONEY AS COUNCILMAN BROWN
18 SAID, BECAUSE OF THEIR EXPERTISE AND THE LIABILITY COSTS THAT
19 THEY PREVENT. NOW I APPRECIATE THE SEVERE BUDGETARY
20 CONSTRAINTS THAT YOU'RE ALL FACING, BUT I THINK ELIMINATING
21 THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW WOULD BE VERY SHORTSIGHTED AND VERY
22 COSTLY SOLUTION IN TERMS OF THE ULTIMATE PRICE TO BE PAID. AND
23 IF I READ THE BUDGET RIGHT, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A SAVINGS OF
24 \$420,000. WHY ENDANGER SUCH UNIQUE RESOURCES? I HAVE HERE IN
25 FRONT OF ME AN ARTICLE FROM A 1937 ISSUE OF 'TRAILS MAGAZINE'



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1 THAT WAS PUBLISHED BY THE L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
2 RECREATION, CAMPS, AND PLAYGROUNDS. IT WAS WRITTEN 65 YEARS
3 AGO, AND IT DESCRIBES A VISION OF A VAST SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM OF
4 BRIDLE PATHS THAT WILL RIVAL ANY SIMILAR PATH KNOWN IN THE
5 WEST. IT ENVISIONED A GREENBELT OF BEAUTIFUL TRAILS AROUND THE
6 COUNTY. FOR OVER 65 YEARS, THE CITIZENS OF L.A. COUNTY HAVE
7 HIKED AND RIDDEN AND BIKED ON THESE TRAILS. WHY PUT THIS
8 INCREDIBLE RESOURCE AT RISK FOR \$420,000 OUT OF A BUDGET OF
9 \$16.5 BILLION? IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. AND I'D HAVE TO
10 SAY FINALLY, WITH THE POPULATION OF GREATER LOS ANGELES
11 EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY SIX MILLION PEOPLE IN THE NEXT 20
12 YEARS, THE TRAILS ARE GOING TO PLAY AN EVER MORE CRUCIAL RULE
13 IN KEEPING L.A. LIVABLE, AND I KNOW THAT YOU PASSED A
14 RESOLUTION THIS PAST FEBRUARY SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF
15 TRAILS AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE EQUESTRIAN LIFE-STYLE.
16 YOU'VE RECOGNIZED HOW IMPORTANT THE TRAILS ARE BY ALLOCATING
17 FUNDS TO CREATE NEW TRAILS AND TO REOPEN EXISTING TRAILS THAT
18 HAVE BEEN LOST, LIKE THE ALTADENA CREST TRAIL. THIS WILL ALL
19 BE TAXPAYER MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN IF THE COMPARATIVELY SMALL
20 AMOUNT REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THE TRAILS IS ELIMINATED. SO I
21 WOULD JUST SAY THAT LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE TRAILS COUNCIL AND
22 OUR VOLUNTEERS IN LA CANADA, AS ALWAYS, STAND READY TO SUPPORT
23 THE TRAILS, AND WE ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THEM AS
24 WELL BY ALLOCATING FUNDS IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET FOR THE TRAILS
25 MAINTENANCE CREW. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING, LIZ.

3

4 **LIZ BLACKWELDER:** GOOD MORNING, ALL OF YOU SUPERVISORS. I'M
5 LIZ BLACKWELDER, AND I'M A PERSON WHO HAS RIDDEN TRAILS FOR
6 MANY, MANY YEARS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE FIRST TIME I WAS
7 DOWN HERE IN THIS BUILDING, I WAS TALKING WITH KENNETH HAHN
8 FOR WHOM THIS BUILDING IS NAMED, AND KENNETH WAS ASKING ME A
9 COMPARISON OF OUR CALIFORNIA TRAILS WITH TRAILS ACROSS THE
10 UNITED STATES AND HIS REQUEST WAS HOW DO WE COMPARE WITH WHAT
11 I SAW WHEN I RODE MY HORSE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES WITH THE
12 BICENTENNIAL. SO YOU SEE, I HAVE BEEN A PERSON IN FAVOR OF
13 TRAILS MAINTENANCE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. LA CANADA MAY SEEM TO
14 BE A RATHER ELITE COMMUNITY, BUT IT IS A COMMUNITY WHICH HAS
15 TAKEN THE FOREFRONT IN ALL OF THE MATTERS OF TRAILS. I HAVE A
16 BOOKLET HERE IN WHICH LOS -- THE LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE BECAME
17 ONE OF THE TOP TRAILED TOWNS IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS WAS A
18 CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY. SO YOU SEE,
19 THIS REPRESENTS NOT ONLY HORSES AND PEOPLE WHO RIDE BICYCLES,
20 BUT IT REPRESENTS HIKERS. WE WERE VOTED ONE OF THE TOP 10
21 CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND WE WON THIS AWARD WHICH WE ARE
22 ENTITLED TO REPRODUCE AND PUT THROUGHOUT OUR CITY. WE ARE
23 CONCERNED, OF COURSE, ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE TRAILS, NOT ONLY
24 IN OUR COMMUNITY, BUT IN ALL OF LOS ANGELES AND WITH THE
25 POPULATION EXPECTED TO GO SKY-HIGH IN ANOTHER FEW YEARS, WE



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1 NEED THESE TRAILS, WE NEED THEM FOR RECREATION, BECAUSE
2 RECREATION IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE FOR PEOPLE, THEY HAVE
3 TO GET AWAY FROM THE GRIND OF DAILY LIVING. OUR TRAILS ARE
4 WHAT WE CALL IN LA CANADA, THEY'RE WHAT ARE SINGLE PARKS? WHAT
5 DO WE CALL? MARY BARRIE: LINEAR PARKS.

6

7 **LIZ BLACKWELDER:** LINEAR PARKS, THAT IS -- EXCUSE ME, I'M
8 FORGETTING THE NAME. LINEAR PARKS ARE PARKS WHICH CAN BE USED
9 BY ANYBODY. HIKING IS SO IMPORTANT. SO I JUST HAVE TO SAY THAT
10 WITH THE INVESTMENT OF THE MONEY THAT ALL THE COMMUNITIES PUT
11 IN THE TRAILS THAT ARE ALREADY -- ALREADY EXIST, IT IS
12 ESSENTIAL THAT WE TAKE CARE OF THEM. JUST RECENTLY, THE SANTA
13 MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GAVE OUR COMMUNITY \$600,000 FOR
14 THE ACQUISITION OF SOME ACRES WHICH ARE A TRAIL ACCESS, OF
15 WHICH WE ARE VERY PROUD. NOW HOW CAN THE STATE BE GIVING US
16 MONEY OF THAT MAGNITUDE AND THEN LEARN THAT THE TRAILS ARE
17 BEING, BEING -- MAINTENANCE IS BEING CUT? IT DOESN'T MAKE
18 SENSE. I HAVE HERE AN ARTICLE PUT OUT BY THE COUNTY OF LOS
19 ANGELES AND I WOULD LIKE ALL OF YOU SUPERVISORS TO HAVE A COPY
20 OF IT. IT'S NOTABLE HERE THAT THE BUDGET IN 1996 WAS \$437,000.
21 WE ARE AT THIS SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY IS BEING USED NOW, ARE YOU
22 GOING TO TELL ME, WILL YOU PASS THAT OUT. THAT'S VERY GOOD. SO
23 AS I SAY, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE KEEP THE TRAILS. IN
24 1996, JIM COMPOS WAS THE HEAD OF THE TRAILS COMMITTEE, AND HE
25 WROTE IN OUR LETTER THAT HIS CREW WAS BEING CUT FROM 14 TO 10.



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1 NOW IT'S EVEN LESS. THE MILEAGE STAYS THE SAME. THE CREWS ARE
2 CUT DOWN. YOU ARE STRANGLING OUR TRAIL SYSTEM SLOWLY BUT
3 SURELY. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. THANK YOU.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. OKAY. LINDA PALMER, ROSA LAVEAGA,
6 DEBORAH STEVENS. PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME BEFORE YOU SPEAK, GOOD
7 MORNING.

8

9 **LINDA PALMER:** I'M LINDA PALMER, I'M THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF
10 THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS TRAILS COUNCIL, AND I'M -- I HAVE
11 NOT BEEN TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR A LONG TIME. I WAS
12 APPALLED AT HOW MUCH WORSE THE TRAFFIC HAS GOTTEN, BUT I'M
13 GLAD THAT I FINALLY GOT HERE. SO GOOD MORNING AND THANK YOU
14 FOR HEARING THIS. THE PEOPLE FROM LA CANADA EXPRESSED
15 THEMSELVES VERY WELL ABOUT STRANGLING THE TRAILS SYSTEM, AND
16 IT'S A TRAIL SYSTEM THAT IS SO VALUABLE TO THE PUBLIC, AND FOR
17 THE AMOUNT OF PLEASURE AND HEALTHY EXERCISE THAT PEOPLE GET
18 OUT OF IT. IT'S REALLY NOT ALL THAT EXPENSIVE. SO I'M HERE TO
19 ASK THAT THE TRAIL CREW -- THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW OF THE
20 COUNTY NOT BE DISBANDED. IT ISN'T VERY MANY MEN, BUT THEY ARE
21 VERY EXPERIENCED, THEY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING, THEY DO A GOOD
22 JOB, AND THEY HAVE OVER 300 MILES OF TRAIL THAT THEY LOOK
23 AFTER. IN THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS, WE HAVE SEVERAL COUNTY
24 TRAILS OR SEGMENTS OF COUNTY TRAIL AND OUR TRAILS COUNCIL HAS
25 A SORT OF A LOOSE AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY PARKS THAT THE



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1 MOUNTAINOUS TRAILS WE WILL MAINTAIN, AND WE HAVE BEEN DOING
2 THAT, BUT THERE ARE SOME SEGMENTS THAT WE NEED THE COUNTY TO
3 MAINTAIN. ONE OF THEM IS THE TRAILS THROUGH SALCA UNIVERSITY.
4 IT WAS PUT IN WITH THE COUNTY'S LITTLE BULLDOZER AND IT NEEDS
5 TO BE MAINTAINED. IT HAS SOME TECHNICAL PROBLEMS THAT THE
6 COUNTY NEEDS TO DO, AND THEY DO DO IT, AND THEN THERE ARE A
7 COUPLE OF OTHER SPOTS THAT THEY HAVE WORKED ON, BUT MOST OF
8 THE TRAILS THAT YOUR TRAIL CREW WORK ON ARE IN OTHER AREAS OF
9 THE COUNTY, AND THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND SOME OF THEM GO
10 THROUGH URBAN AREAS, SOME ARE MORE RURAL, BUT THEY'RE TRAILS
11 THAT WERE PUT IN WITH THE LITTLE COUNTY BULLDOZERS AND THEY
12 NEED TO BE MAINTAINED WITH THOSE BULLDOZERS, TO TRY TO USE
13 C.C.C. TO DO IT WOULD NOT WORK BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED TO
14 USE BIG EQUIPMENT. PLUS, ALTHOUGH IT'S GOOD TO GIVE JOBS TO
15 THE C.C.C., THE C.C.C., I HAVE NOT FOUND THAT THEY ARE THAT
16 EFFICIENT. I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO GET VERY MUCH
17 WORK DONE FOR A QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS. THE MONEY
18 DOESN'T GO VERY FAR. YOUR CREW IS MUCH MORE EFFICIENT. YOUR
19 COUNTY, YOU CAN BE VERY PROUD OF YOUR TRAILS -- YOUR TRAIL
20 SYSTEM. IN, I THINK IT WAS 1996, IT WON AN AWARD FOR TRAIL
21 TOWN U.S.A. AND THAT WAS QUITE AMAZING AND ACTUALLY I THINK IT
22 WAS AT MY SUGGESTION THAT THE COUNTY APPLIED FOR THE CONTEST
23 AND -- BUT I THOUGHT IT HAD A GOOD CHANCE AND I WAS -- I WAS
24 SO THRILLED WHEN IT WON. AND IT'S JUST AMAZING HOW YOUR TRAILS
25 CAN GO THROUGH THE URBAN AREAS AND THEY GO FOR MILES AND MILES



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1 AND MILES, IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU CAN START IN LONG BEACH AND
2 TAKE A HORSEBACK RIDE ALL THE WAY UP TO THE SAN GABRIEL
3 MOUNTAINS. SO THE C.C.C. IS NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE
4 OF THAT, AND VOLUNTEERS CAN'T REALLY TAKE CARE OF THAT, YOU
5 NEED YOUR CREW AND RATHER THAN JUST HAVING OTHER PARK
6 EMPLOYEES WORK ON IT, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE SOMEBODY DO
7 IT WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE DOING AND KNOWS WHAT HAS TO BE DONE
8 AND THEY'RE EXPERIENCED. SO I JUST URGE YOU THAT YOU DON'T CUT
9 -- MAKE THIS CUT TO SAVE MONEY. IT'S JUST, IT WOULD BE --
10 WELL, I THINK IT'S SHORTED SIGHTED AND THAT THE LOSS WOULD BE
11 TREMENDOUS, IT'S BEEN SO MANY YEARS TO DEVELOP THIS TRAIL
12 SYSTEM, AND YOU COULD JUST LOSE IT ALL. THE TRAILS WOULD GET
13 TO WHERE THEY'RE NOT SAFE AND THEN THEY WOULD BE CLOSED AND
14 THEN THEY WOULD BE GONE AND YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET THEM
15 BACK. SO I THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME.

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

18

19 **ROSA LAVEAGA:** GOOD MORNING MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
20 BOARD. MY NAME IS ROSA LAVEAGA, AND I AM HERE REPRESENTING THE
21 CITY OF PASADENA AND THE COMMUNITY THAT I SERVE. I AM THE
22 SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE ARROYO SECO IN PASADENA AND I WORK FOR
23 THE PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF THE CITY. I'M
24 RESPONSIBLE FOR A 12-MILE CORRIDOR OF BEAUTIFUL NATURAL OPEN
25 SPACE COMPRISING OVER 3,000 ACRES AT THE WESTERN EDGE OF



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1 PASADENA. IT IS A CORRIDOR THAT PROVIDES AN INCREDIBLE SYSTEM
2 OF HIKING AND EQUESTRIAN TRAILS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, AND
3 BELIEVE ME, IT IS A CORRIDOR THAT HAS EXTENSIVE AND GROWING
4 RECREATIONAL USAGE. PASADENA'S TRAIL SYSTEM LINKS TO AN EVEN
5 LARGER SYSTEM OF TRAILS TO THE NORTH, LEADING TRAIL USERS TO
6 THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, INTO ALTA DENA AND OTHER
7 UNINCORPORATED COUNTY TERRITORY TO THE EAST AS WELL AS THE
8 TRAILS OF LA CANADA, FLINTRIDGE, GLENDALE, AND UNINCORPORATED
9 COUNTY TERRITORY TO THE WEST. MY RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE THE
10 PLANNING OF TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AND I ALSO OVERSEE THE
11 MAINTENANCE CREWS OF THE TRAIL SYSTEM IN PASADENA. SO I LIVE
12 MAINTENANCE DAILY. I HAVE HIRED C.C.C. GROUPS. I AGREE WITH
13 THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS THAT FOR THE MONEY, YOUR CREW IS
14 INCREDIBLE. WHAT THEY DO WITH THE BUDGET THAT THEY HAVE IS
15 INCREDIBLE. I HAVE WORKED SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE C.C.C. IS,
16 THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO RUN HEAVY EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THIS KIND
17 OF WORK, NOR -- THEY'RE YOUNG PEOPLE, THEY NEED CONSTANT
18 SUPERVISION AND THE EFFORT IS GREATER THAN THE VALUE THAT YOU
19 GET AT THE END OF THE JOB, BELIEVE ME. I HAVE HAD CLOSE
20 INTERACTION WITH THE COUNTY RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION
21 OF THE COUNTY AND THEY HAVE PROVIDED THE CITY OF PASADENA
22 GREAT SERVICE. THE DIVISION HAS EXPERIENCE AND EQUIPMENT THAT
23 IS ONE OF A KIND. MY OPERATION WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO
24 REPLICATE WHAT THIS DIVISION PROVIDES FOR PASADENA AND OUR
25 REGION, BOTH IN KNOWLEDGE AND EQUIPMENT. LOSING THIS DIVISION



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1 WOULD HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON THE CITY OF PASADENA. WE'VE BEEN
2 WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE WRITING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION,
3 SUPERVISOR, ON A SPECIFIC PROJECT IN PASADENA ON THE EASTERN
4 EDGE OF THE ARROYO NEAR THE ROSE BOWL. A SERIOUS COMMITMENT
5 HAS BEEN MADE BETWEEN OUR TWO OPERATIONS TO RESTORE A
6 SIGNIFICANT LENGTH OF TRAIL THAT IS CURRENTLY CLOSED AND
7 POSING A GREAT HAZARD TO THE USERS OF THAT TRAIL. THERE IS NO
8 WAY MY CREWS WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THAT WORK WITHOUT OUR
9 INTENDED PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS
10 DIVISION OF THE COUNTY. EVERY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY GOES THROUGH
11 BUDGET CUTS AND BUDGET INCREASES. THIS PARTICULAR DIVISION OF
12 THE COUNTY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CUT DURING CRUNCH TIMES TIME AND
13 TIME AGAIN AND THEY ARE NOW A SKELETAL CREW. YET WHAT THIS
14 OPERATION GETS ACCOMPLISHED, AS I SAY, WITH ABOUT \$450,000, AS
15 I UNDERSTAND IT, IS QUITE INCREDIBLE. AS I SAY, I KNOW
16 MAINTENANCE. I DEAL WITH IT DAILY IN PASADENA. MAINTENANCE CAN
17 BE A DRAIN TO A GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, BUT THIS DIVISION OF THE
18 COUNTY, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, ACTUALLY BRINGS REVENUE TO THE
19 COUNTY. I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WHEN PASADENA PARTNERS
20 WITH THE RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION, IT IS NOT FOR
21 FREE. WE WOULD HAVE A CHOICE OF PAYING A CONTRACTOR, WE WOULD
22 HAVE THE CHOICE OF PAYING THE C.C.C. IS, BUT WE IN THIS
23 INSTANCE WOULD PAY THE COUNTY MUCH LIKE A CONTRACTOR BUT AT A
24 REDUCED FEE AND WE GET THE VERY SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE. SO THIS
25 OPERATION DOES BRING REVENUE TO THE COUNTY COFFERS. PASADENA



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1 WANTS TO HELP OUT. ONE OF THE PARKS I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR
2 CURRENTLY AT THE NORTH END OF OUR ARROYO KNOWN AS JA JAMUNGA,
3 IT USED TO BE OAK GROVE PARK, OPERATED BY THE COUNTY. THERE IS
4 A SMALL MAINTENANCE YARD THAT WE'VE LEFT FOR THE HIKING AND
5 TRAILS DIVISION. WE SOON WILL BE ACQUIRING A LARGE AREA IN THE
6 CITY THAT CAN PROVIDE AN EVEN LARGER YARD AREA FOR YOUR
7 DIVISION AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY, BECAUSE PASADENA KNOWS WHAT
8 SERVICE THE COUNTY TRAILS DIVISION BRINGS TO OUR REGION. I ASK
9 YOU TO NOT BE SHORTSIGHTED, TO MAKE A RESPONSIBLE CHOICE FOR
10 THE USERS OF THE TRAILS. THIS IS LARGELY A SAFETY ISSUE. A
11 VOTE TO ELIMINATE THIS DIVISION AND THE VALUE IT BRINGS TO THE
12 COUNTY AND CITIES, LIKE MY CITY, IS A DECISION THAT WILL
13 ENSURE UNSAFE TRAILS THAT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE MAINTAINED
14 AND THAT WILL CREATE HAZARDOUS AND UNSAFE CONDITIONS, NOT ONLY
15 FOR COUNTY TRAILS USERS, BUT THE VAST NUMBER OF USERS FROM MY
16 CITY AND OTHER SURROUNDING CITIES WHO HAVE TRAIL SYSTEMS THAT
17 CONNECT TO THE COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM. I ASK YOU TO PLEASE AVOID
18 THESE UNNECESSARY FUTURE LIABILITIES. THERE IS A GREAT
19 MOMENTUM AT THIS TIME ACROSS THE STATE FOR WATERSHED
20 PRESERVATION, OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION, AND TRAIL RESTORATION,
21 AND MY CITY IS NOT ALONE, I'M SURE, AMONGST OTHER AGENCIES,
22 INCLUDING THE COUNTY, TO BE IN RECEIPT OF FUNDING FOR PROJECTS
23 THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MOMENTUM. WE HAVE NEW TRAIL PROJECTS
24 AND BRIDGE RESTORATION PROJECTS THAT RESURRECT HISTORIC TRAIL
25 CROSSINGS THAT WILL GREATLY ENHANCE TRAIL ACCESS FOR HIKERS



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1 AND EQUESTRIANS AND IT MAKES NO SENSE TO ME THAT COMMUNITIES
2 LIKE MINE WILL BE MAKING THESE IMPROVEMENTS AND LEADING THE
3 RECREATIONAL USERS TO COUNTY TRAIL AREAS THAT WILL NOT BE
4 PROPERLY MAINTAINED. HAVING ANOTHER DIVISION OF THE COUNTY
5 ABSORB THE MAINTENANCE TASKS OF AN ELIMINATED HIKING AND
6 TRAILS DIVISION IS NOT THE ANSWER. THIS IS SPECIALIZED WORK.
7 I'VE BEEN IN THIS INDUSTRY FOR NEARLY 18 YEARS WORKING WITH
8 TRAILS FOR ABOUT THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, AND I NEVER THOUGHT
9 THAT THIS KIND OF WORK WAS SPECIALIZED, BUT IT TRULY IS. THIS
10 IS SPECIALIZED WORK THAT COULD NOT POSSIBLY BE DONE BY ANOTHER
11 DIVISION THAT IS ALREADY IMPACTED, I WOULD IMAGINE, IN THEIR
12 WORKLOAD.

13

14 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** OKAY.

15

16 **ROSA LAVEAGA:** THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME THIS MORNING. THE CITY
17 OF PASADENA ASKS YOU THAT YOU NOT ELIMINATE THE RIDING AND
18 HIKING TRAILS DIVISION OF THE COUNTY. THANK YOU.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU ROSA, DEBORAH. LET ME ALSO CALL UP
21 BOB LEWIS AND TERE TUCKER. DEBORAH?

22

23 **DEBORAH STEVENS:** HI. MY NAME IS DEBORAH STEVENS. I'M FROM THE
24 ANTELOPE VALLEY. EVERYBODY SEEMS TO HAVE COVERED EVERYTHING
25 QUITE ELOQUENTLY. THERE'S A -- I'M WITH THE ANTELOPE VALLEY



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1 TRAILS RECREATION ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL. WE DO SOME TRAIL
2 MAINTENANCE, WE PUSH FORWARD WITH THE REGIONAL COUNTY TRAIL
3 SYSTEM, WE'VE ENJOYED IT. WE'RE HOPING TO HAVE MORE TRAILS
4 BUILT OUT IN OUR AREA AND WITH THE POPULATION INCREASE, WE'RE
5 HOPING TO GET THE TRAILS BUILT. WHO WILL MAINTAIN THEM? PUBLIC
6 WORKS DOESN'T DO THAT, CALTRANS DOESN'T DO THAT AT ALL. WE
7 HAVE MAJOR HIGHWAY CROSSINGS, WE HAVE THINGS THAT ARE VERY
8 IMPORTANT, THE OPEN SPACE AND -- THAT WE HAVE NOW WON'T ALWAYS
9 BE THERE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT THE MAINTENANCE IS EXTREMELY
10 IMPORTANT. WE'RE NOT EQUIPPED, NONE OF US HAVE TRACTORS AND
11 BULLDOZERS AND WE AREN'T THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WE CAN'T
12 BUILD THESE -- REBUILD THESE CROSSINGS TIME AND TIME AGAIN. I
13 SEE EVERY YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION GETS CUT BACK FURTHER AND
14 FURTHER. I KNOW THEY GOT A LOT OF MONEY THIS YEAR FOR TRAILS,
15 200 MILLION. THEY BUILD THE TRAILS, WHO'S GOING TO MAINTAIN
16 THEM? A WASTING OF MORE TAX DOLLARS DOESN'T SEEM BENEFICIAL.
17 THE SMALL AMOUNT IT COSTS FOR THIS MAINTENANCE CREW, WE'D LIKE
18 TO KEEP. MOST OF US IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY PAY EXTREMELY HIGH
19 TAXES. FOR EXAMPLE, WITH THE PROP A FUND, WE WERE TOLD THAT IT
20 WOULD BE \$12 PER SINGLE DWELLING FAMILY HOUSEHOLD. WELL, ON A
21 2-1/2-ACRE LOT, YOU PAY \$98.69C FOR PROP A. WE DIDN'T REALIZE
22 THAT WHEN WE SAID "YES" ON THAT, AND WE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT WE
23 WOULDN'T -- THAT I LIVE IN A COMMUNITY THAT'S ONE OF THE
24 HIGHEST PAYING TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS IN THE STATE AND WE
25 HAVE THE LEAST AMOUNT OF SERVICES. WE DON'T MIND ALL THAT, BUT



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1 WE DO NEED THE TRAILS, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU'LL KEEP THEM OPEN
2 FOR US. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, DEBORAH. GOOD MORNING, BOB.

5

6 **BOB LEWIS:** MORNING. MY NAME IS BOB LEWIS, I'M THE PRESIDENT OF
7 THE CASTAIC AREA TOWN COUNCIL. FIRST OF ALL JUST REAL BRIEFLY
8 I'D LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL THE SUPERVISORS FOR TAKING
9 THE TIME FOR THIS PUBLIC HEARING. WE IN CASTAIC DO KNOW THAT
10 THE PROCESS WORKS. LAST YEAR WHEN WE BROUGHT THE TRACK WASH
11 ISSUE TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, YOU LISTENED TO OUR
12 COMMUNITY AND YOU SUPPORTED THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND
13 WE DO APPRECIATE THAT. I AM HERE TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE
14 RETURN OF CASTAIC LAKE TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. THE FIRST
15 THING THAT I'D LIKE TO PRESENT TO YOU IS I HAVE A STACK OF
16 PETITIONS HERE OF 1,056 SIGNATURES THAT WERE RECEIVED OVER THE
17 WEEKEND. THE PETITION READS, "AS TAXPAYERS OF L.A. COUNTY WHO
18 USE CASTAIC LAKE FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AMONGST WHICH
19 INCLUDES BOATING, FISHING, SWIMMING, HIKING, BIKING, HORSEBACK
20 RIDING, PICNICS, ENJOYING NATURE AND WILDLIFE, WE ARE
21 ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO TURNING THE OPERATION OF THE LAKE OVER TO
22 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AS A WAY OF BALANCING THE BUDGET OF
23 L.A. COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. THE RESULT OF
24 THIS ACTION WILL BE GREATLY CURTAILED SERVICES AND POSSIBLY
25 CLOSURE OF THE LAKE AND A LARGE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON



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1 THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN CASTAIC, RESULTING IN A LOSS OF
2 SALES TAX INCOME TO THE COUNTY AND A LOSS OF PROPERTY VALUE TO
3 THE HOMEOWNERS BY REMOVING ONE OF THE LARGEST REGIONAL PARKS
4 IN THE NORTHERN PORTION OF L.A. COUNTY, YOU ARE DENYING US
5 ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PAID FOR BY OUR TAX DOLLARS.
6 AND WE HAD OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE SIGN THAT PETITION. IN
7 ADDITION, AT THE APRIL 16TH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, DON ALLEN,
8 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL FACILITIES FOR L.A. COUNTY
9 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION MADE A PRESENTATION IN
10 REGARDS TO THE PROPOSAL TO TURNING OVER THE OPERATION OF
11 CASTAIC LAKE RECREATION AREA TO THE STATE. AFTER LENGTHY
12 DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THIS MATTER AND ALSO DETERMINING THAT
13 THE 3.1 MILLION FIGURE THAT WAS BEING TOUTED AS A SAVINGS IN
14 THE RETURNING OF THE LAKE AND THE PLACERITA CANYON CENTER, WE
15 DISCOVERED THAT THE OUT OF POCKET OPERATING EXPENSE TO THE
16 COUNTY FOR CASTAIC LAKE IS \$1,774,406 NOT 3.1. YES, THAT'S A
17 LARGE AMOUNT. YES, WE ARE IN A POSITION WHERE CUTS DO NEED TO
18 BE MADE BY THE COUNTY, BUT WE THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT
19 ACCURATE FIGURES BE DISCUSSED. THE COUNCIL VOTED BY UNANIMOUS
20 VOTE TO ADAMANTLY OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE FOLLOWING
21 REASONS. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STATE
22 AS TO MAINTAINING SERVICE AT THE LAKE THAT WOULD KEEP IT OPEN
23 AND FUNCTIONING AT THE LEVEL THAT IS CURRENTLY OFFERED BY THE
24 COUNTY. I CALLED ASSEMBLYMAN STRICKLAND'S OFFICE THIS MORNING
25 TO GET AN UPDATE. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PARKS AND RECS



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1 DEPARTMENT SAID THAT IF THE COUNTY DOES TURN THE LAKE OVER,
2 THAT OBVIOUSLY THEY WOULDN'T WALK AWAY FROM IT, BUT THEY HAVE
3 ZERO, ZERO FUNDS IN THE CURRENT BUDGET COMING UP FOR NEXT YEAR
4 THAT CURRENTLY COULD BE IDENTIFIED FOR USE AT THE LAKE, AND IF
5 THEY DID TAKE OVER THE LAKE OPERATIONS, THEY WOULD SEVERELY
6 CURTAIL SERVICES. WE ALSO OPPOSED IT BECAUSE OF THE STRONG
7 NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT THIS ACTION WOULD HAVE ON THE
8 BUSINESS COMMUNITY ON CASTAIC THAT RELIES ON LAKE VISITORS FOR
9 BETWEEN 20 TO 40% OF REVENUE. THE NEGATIVE IMPACT THIS
10 PROPERTY -- ON THE PROPERTY VALUES FOR HOMEOWNERS AND THE LACK
11 OF A STUDY BY THE COUNTY AS TO THIS IMPACT ON THE BUSINESSES
12 HOMEOWNERS AND BY NOT FACTORING IN THE LOSS OF SALES TAX
13 REVENUE TO THE COUNTY, IF THE LAKE IS EITHER CLOSED OR
14 OPERATED AT DIMINISHED LEVELS. WE FEEL THAT JUST RATHER THAN
15 TAKING A LOOK AT THE 1.7 MILLION SAVINGS THAT THE PARKS AND
16 RECS WOULD HAVE IN THEIR BUDGET, THAT YOU HAVE TO COUNTER
17 BALANCE THAT BY THE AMOUNT OF REVENUE -- SALES TAX REVENUE
18 THAT IS GENERATED BY VISITORS TO THE LAKE TO BOTH THE COUNTY
19 AND THE STATE. IF YOU DON'T DO THAT, YOU MIGHT BE ENDING UP
20 SHOOTING YOURSELF IN THE FOOT OF SAVING 1.7 IN ONE AREA AND
21 LOSING A GREATER SUBSTANTIAL DOLLAR AMOUNT THAT GOES TO THE
22 COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NOBODY HAS LOOKED AT THAT FIGURE. WE HAVE
23 FOUR BOAT SALES AND SERVICE BUSINESSES IN CASTAIC THAT WOULD
24 BE SEVERELY IMPACTED AND HAVE INDICATED THAT MOST LIKELY THE
25 RESULT OF THIS ACTION IS CLOSURE OF ALL FOUR BUSINESSES AND



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1 ANOTHER DIMINISHING OF REVENUES TO THE COUNTY. WE ALSO FEEL
2 THAT THE COUNTY HAS NOW LOOKED HARD ENOUGH AT WAYS TO INCREASE
3 REVENUE BY THE LAKE BY EITHER INCREASING FEES, CHARGING FOR
4 ACCESS TO THE SWIM BEACHES FOR LIFEGUARD SERVICES, OR THE
5 CREATIVE PURSUIT OF OUTSIDE VENDORS OR OTHER USES OF THE LAKE,
6 SUCH AS MUSICAL EVENTS, FISHING TOURNAMENTS, MOUNTAIN BIKE
7 RACES, BOAT SHOWS, ET CETERA, TO INCREASE REVENUES. AND BY THE
8 WAY, I'D LIKE TO POINT OUT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WAS DONE AT
9 THE LAKE IN THE PAST AND WAS DISCONTINUED. THE COUNTY HAS ALSO
10 NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THAT CASTAIC LAKE, ALL 8,800 ACRES OF
11 THIS REGIONAL PARK IS THE LARGEST LAKE IN THE COUNTY SYSTEM
12 AND IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PROVIDING UNIQUE RECREATIONAL
13 ACTIVITIES TO RESIDENTS OF ALL L.A. COUNTY. LAST YEAR THE LAKE
14 HAD CLOSE TO 800,000 VISITORS. THAT IN THEIR SEARCH FOR AREAS
15 TO CUT, THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION IS UNFAIRLY
16 PUTTING THE BRUNT OF THE CUT-BACKS ON ONE AREA RATHER THAN
17 DISTRIBUTING THE REDUCTIONS EVENLY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. BY
18 CUTTING CASTAIC LAKE OUT OF THE COUNTY'S PARK AND RECREATION
19 PROGRAM, THE COUNTY IS IN EFFECT CUTTING OUT A JEWEL IN ITS
20 BALANCE OF RECREATIONAL CHOICES FOR RESIDENTS IN SOUTHERN
21 CALIFORNIA AND WILL CAUSE IRREPARABLE HARM TO THE CASTAIC
22 COMMUNITY. IN CLOSING I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT TURNING IT
23 BACK TO THE STATE IS A DE-FACTO CLOSURE OF THE LAKE, AND IS A
24 DE-FACTO CLOSURE OF OUR COMMUNITY. I MEAN, THE LAKE IS OUR
25 COMMUNITY. THE LAKE IS OUR SOURCE OF REVENUE. IT'S THE



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1 EQUIVALENT OF SAYING, "WE'VE BEEN RIDING THIS FOUR-LEGGED
2 HORSE FOR ALL THESE YEARS, WE'RE GIVING IT BACK TO YOU, BUT BY
3 THE WAY, WE'RE REMOVING TWO LEGS.' IT'S STILL A HORSE, BUT
4 IT'S BASICALLY USELESS. THANK YOU.

5

6 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, BOB. TERE?

7

8 **TERE TUCKER:** HI MY NAME IS TERE TUCKER, AND I'M THE CASTAIC
9 AREA TOWN COUNCIL SECRETARY AND PARKS AND RECREATION CHAIR.
10 I'M ALSO A MEMBER OF THE CASTAIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FRIENDS
11 OF THE LAKE, AND SERVE AS CHAIR FOR THE LAKE VISION COMMITTEE.
12 AGAIN, AS BOB HAS SAID, I'M NOT GOING TO REITERATE WHAT HE'S
13 TALKED ABOUT, BUT AS BOB HAS SAID, WE'RE ALREADY SET TO RAISE
14 MONEY FOR THE LAKE, BUT WHAT I FEEL LIKE IT WILL ALSO TAKE IS
15 A COMMITMENT FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO DO
16 THIS. AMONG OTHER WAYS TO RAISE MONEY, LIKE HE SAID, CONCERTS
17 IN THE PARK. IN ADDITION TO WHAT MR. LEWIS HAS SAID, I'D LIKE
18 TO TALK ABOUT THE PROPERTY VALUES IN THE -- IN CASTAIC, WHERE
19 IF THERE'S A REVENUE LOSS OF THE PROPERTY VALUES, THAT MEANS
20 PROPERTY TAXES COULD GO DOWN AND THERE WOULD BE A LOSS OF
21 PROPERTY TAXES TO THE COUNTY AS WELL AS THE REVENUE FROM THE
22 BUSINESSES AROUND TOWN. I WOULD LIKE THE SUPERVISORS TO THINK
23 ABOUT THE REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY NORTH LAKE BEING
24 BUILT OUT, THIS IS AN ADDITIONAL 3900 HOMES THAT SUN CAL AND
25 NORTH LAKE L.L.C. ARE CURRENTLY IN NEGOTIATIONS OVER. I'VE



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1 HEARD THAT SUN CAL MIGHT WALK AWAY FROM THIS PROJECT IF THE
2 COUNTY WALKS AWAY FROM THE LAKE. I THINK THAT WOULD BE VERY
3 DETRIMENTAL TO CASTAIC LAKE AS THEY'RE ALSO PUTTING IN AN
4 INDUSTRIAL CENTER IN THAT COMMUNITY UP THERE. THE OTHER THING
5 IS IS I DON'T UNDERSTAND AGAIN WHY THE -- LOS ANGELES COUNTY
6 PARKS AND RECREATION CANNOT SPREAD OUT THE CUTS WITHIN THE
7 COUNTY RATHER THAN TAKE OUT THE TWO PARKS OF REGION FIVE AND
8 BOTH PARKS IN THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY. CASTAIC IS AN
9 UNINCORPORATED OF LOS ANGELES THAT SUPPLIES THE COUNTY WITH
10 MORE TAX DOLLARS THAN IT RECEIVES IN SERVICES. WE ARE NOT JUST
11 A TREK TOWN. WE HAVE OVER 20,000 RESIDENTS THAT PAY TAXES AND
12 PROPERTY TAXES. EVEN GENERAL MOTORS HAS RECOGNIZED CASTAIC AS
13 A PREFERRED SITE TO BUILD THEIR NEW G.M. MR. GOOD WRENCH
14 CENTER. THERE'S MANY EXISTING AND NEW SHOPPING MALLS AND
15 INDUSTRIAL CENTERS, INCLUDING THE VALENCIA GATEWAY CENTER
16 WHICH IS LOCATED IN CASTAIC. SIMPLY STATED, THESE BUSINESSES
17 GENERATE TAXES THAT DON'T STAY IN CASTAIC AND ARE BEING USED
18 TO SUPPLEMENT SERVICES IN OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTY. SOMETIMES
19 CUTTING BUDGET DOLLARS FOR SERVICES THAT PROVIDE ECONOMIC
20 STIMULUS TO OTHER SOURCES OF TAXABLE DOLLARS DOESN'T MAKE
21 FINANCIAL SENSE. I WOULD ASK YOU NOT TO BE SHORTSIGHTED IN
22 YOUR DECISION TO CLOSE CASTAIC LAKE OR YOU MAY FIND THAT
23 CASTAIC LAKE IS JUST A START OF PARK CLOSINGS IN THE COUNTY.
24 THIS WOULD CREATE A TERRIBLE INCREASE IN CRIME. CHILDREN AND
25 ADULTS ALIKE NEED SOMETHING TO DO AND A PLACE TO GO, WHETHER



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1 IT'S PICNICKING, BOATING, SKIING, HIKING, FISHING OR JUST
2 TAKING A NICE WALK WITH THEIR FAMILY THROUGH THE PARK. THE
3 PLACERITA NATURE CENTER AND THE CASTAIC LAKE PROVIDES THIS FOR
4 ADULTS AND CHILDREN ALIKE. THE COST OF THESE EXPERIENCES ARE
5 PRICELESS. I'VE ALSO ATTENDED MEETINGS WHERE THE PARKS AND
6 RECREATION ARE PAYING INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS TO HOLD MEETINGS
7 ASKING THE PUBLIC WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED.
8 INSTEAD OF DOING THIS, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE USE THIS
9 MONEY TO MAINTAIN THE PARKS AND RECREATIONS THAT WE HAVE AND
10 THAT IT TO BUILD -- AND RATHER THAN BUILD MORE PARKS OR TRYING
11 TO FIX SOME THINGS THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR. I'D ALSO
12 LIKE TO READ A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, IT IS TO
13 MR. MIKE ANTONOVICH, LOS ANGELES SUPERVISOR. 'DEAR MR.
14 ANTONOVICH, THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE CASTAIC
15 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OPPOSES THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
16 DECISIONS TO TURN THE OPERATIONS OF CASTAIC LAKE BACK TO THE
17 STATE WITHOUT ANY GUARANTEE OF SERVICE. THIS ECONOMIC IMPACT
18 ON THE MAJORITY OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES WOULD BE A POSSIBLE
19 LOSS OF 25 TO 30% OF SALES. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD
20 LIKE TO SPEAK TO ME, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL,' AND
21 HE LISTS HIS NUMBER, AND THIS IS SIGNED 'SINCERELY, TRACY
22 JARRA, CHAMBER PRESIDENT.'

23
24 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.



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1 **TERE TUCKER:** I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYBODY FOR LISTENING TO OUR
2 PROPOSALS TODAY AND PLEASE TAKE ALL THIS INTO CONSIDERATION.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, TERE. HEIDI WEBBER AND BILL
5 WEBBER.

6

7 **HEIDI WEBBER:** SOON AS I GET MY PAPER OUT HERE, OKAY, I'M HEIDI
8 WEBBER, AND I AM THE TREASURER OF THE PLACERITA CANYON NATURE
9 CENTER ASSOCIATES AND WE'RE ALSO HERE TO ASK FOR MONEY, JUST
10 LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

11

12 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE'RE ASKING FOR MONEY, TOO. [LAUGHTER]

13

14 **HEIDI WEBBER:** WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT, I'LL GO WITH YOU. [
15 LAUGHTER] .

16

17 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THAT'S JUST WHAT WE'RE PLANNING TO DO IN 15
18 MINUTES.

19

20 **HEIDI WEBBER:** RIGHT. OKAY. WE ARE HERE TO PROTEST THE POSSIBLE
21 RETURN OF PLACERITA TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR A LOT OF
22 THE SAME REASONS THAT BOB LEWIS AND THE CONTINGENT FROM
23 CASTAIC LAKE HAVE JUST SAID. WE ARE A VERY VALUABLE PARK.
24 WE'RE A 350-ACRE PARK IN THE NORTHERN REGION. AT THIS TIME,
25 PLACERITA ENJOYS THE ASSISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 80 VOLUNTEERS



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1 A MONTH TO HELP RUN THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS. IN APRIL, FOR
2 EXAMPLE, VOLUNTEERS DONATED 760 HOURS OF TIME, WHICH IS
3 EQUIVALENT TO OVER \$12,000 IN STRAIGHT WAGES, WHICH FIGURES WE
4 GOT FROM OUR PARK SUPERVISOR. THAT'S EQUAL TO OVER \$144,000
5 ANNUALLY IN SAVINGS TO THE COUNTY JUST THROUGH VOLUNTEER
6 EFFORTS. THEY'RE -- LET'S SEE HERE, THESE ARE VOLUNTEER HOURS
7 ARE DONATED BY THE P.C.N.C.A. JUNIOR RANGES AND BOY SCOUTS WHO
8 EARN THEIR EAGLES -- EAGLE BADGES, EAGLE SCOUT BADGES. NOW, WE
9 HEARD SOME TALKING ABOUT THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREWS, AND
10 FRANKLY, WE DON'T HAVE ANY OF THAT. OUR EAGLE SCOUTS TAKE CARE
11 OF ALL OF OUR TRAILS AND ALSO VOLUNTEERS. WE HAVE NO COUNTY
12 OUTPUT ON THAT OTHER THAN WEED WHACKING. LET'S SEE HERE. IN
13 ADDITION TO DOZENS OF OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY, OVER
14 16,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM ALL SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS IN L.A.
15 COUNTY COME TO PLACERITA ON EDUCATIONAL AND FUN SCHOOL TRIPS,
16 THIS IS RUN BOTH BY THE DOCENTS OF PLACERITA AT NO COST AND BY
17 THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES AS A PAID PROGRAM, EARNING OVER \$50,000
18 ANNUALLY. THE SELF-GUIDED SCHOOL GROUPS, THE SCOUTING
19 ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE HUNDREDS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO ARE
20 SENT TO OUR PARK BY THEIR PROFESSORS FOR THEIR CLASS
21 ASSIGNMENTS BRING THE TOTAL NUMBERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG
22 ADULTS WHO USE THE PARK FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES TO ABOUT
23 45,000 A YEAR, WITH TOTAL PARK ATTENDANCE BETWEEN 150 AND
24 200,000 INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES THAT WOULD LOSE ACCESS TO
25 THIS PARK IF IT IS RETURNED TO THE STATE BECAUSE OF POTENTIAL



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1 CLOSURE. IF THE PARK WERE TO BE RETURNED TO THE STATE AND
2 SUBSEQUENTLY CLOSED, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS SUCH AS JUNIOR
3 RANGERS, STUDENT NATURALISTS, HAND IN HAND, YEAR-ROUND NATURE
4 CAMP, BIRTHDAY PARTIES IN NATURE, FIELD TRIPS IN NATURE, THEY
5 WOULD CEASE TO EXIST. THESE PROGRAMS GENERATE APPROXIMATELY
6 \$95,000 A YEAR TO THE COUNTY AND THAT IS SUPPLEMENTED BY
7 DONATIONS TO THE P.C.N.C.A. AND FUNDRAISERS TO BENEFIT
8 PLACERITA CANYON. WHEN WE ADD THIS TO THE VALUE OF THE
9 VOLUNTEER HOURS, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT \$239,000 THAT WOULD BE
10 GONE FROM THE COUNTY. THIS IS VOLUNTEER HOURS THAT ARE
11 EQUIVALENT, AND WE'VE BEEN TOLD IT RUNS ABOUT 350,000 A YEAR
12 TO RUN THE PARK. SO WE ACTUALLY MAKE UP A LARGE AMOUNT OF THAT
13 JUST IN OUR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS. IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THE
14 COUNTY PARK SUPERVISOR TOLD US THAT THE SAVINGS TO THE COUNTY
15 WOULD BE ABOUT \$132,000 IN WAGES IF THE PARK IS GIVEN BACK TO
16 THE STATE, THIS MAKES NO SENSE BECAUSE THESE WAGES WOULD BE
17 SPENT ANYWAYS WHEN THESE TWO FULL-TIME AND ONE RECURRING
18 EMPLOYEE ARE RELOCATED TO OTHER AREAS WITHIN THE PARK SYSTEM.
19 THE PARK HAS ONLY BEEN WORKING ON TWO FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES. THE
20 REST ARE PART-TIME, AND THEY ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE RUN THE
21 ABOVE PROGRAMS ALONG WITH THE VOLUNTEERS. BECAUSE OF THE
22 CURRENT STAFFING CUTS, THE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES ARE GONE AS ARE
23 ALL THE REVENUE PRODUCING PROGRAMS EXCEPT FOR THOSE THAT CAN'T
24 BE CANCELED AND THERE ARE NO NEW ONES BEING SCHEDULED.
25 PLACERITA PARK IS ALSO A SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL AREA. THE OAK



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1 OF THE GOLDEN DREAM, WHERE GOLD WAS FIRST DISCOVERED IN
2 CALIFORNIA IS LOCATED IN OUR PARK AND IS A STATE HISTORICAL
3 LANDMARK. OIL WAS FIRST ALSO DISCOVERED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA
4 WITH OIL STILL SHOWING ITSELF IN NATURAL SEEPAGES IN PARTS OF
5 THE PARK. PLACERITA CANYON PARK HAS BEEN PART OF THE COUNTY
6 PARK SYSTEM FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND HAS HAD SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
7 UPON TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PERSONS THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES
8 COUNTY. IF THE COUNTY CAN'T SEE ITS WAY CLEAR TO FULLY FUND
9 THE PARK, COULD YOU AT LEAST CONSIDER SHORTER HOURS, FEWER
10 DAYS? WE'RE OPEN, WE'RE OPEN FOR OPTIONS. WE REALIZE THAT
11 PLACERITA CANYON IS A STATE-OWNED FACILITY BUT IT HAS ALWAYS
12 BEEN COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BENEFITED FROM ITS PRESENCE
13 HISTORICALLY, RECREATIONALLY, AND EDUCATIONALLY. THANK YOU.

14

15 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

16

17 **BILL WEBBER:** MY NAME IS BILL WEBBER. I JUST WANT TO SAY IT'D
18 BE GREAT FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE COUNTY TO KEEP THE PARK OPEN.
19 THANK YOU.

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THAT'S IT?

24



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WE APPRECIATE YOUR -- ARE YOU, OR DO YOU
2 KNOW, ARE YOU THE ONLY FACILITY THAT HAS THE EAGLE SCOUTS
3 INVOLVED WITH YOUR CENTER?

4

5 **HEIDI:** I BELIEVE WE ARE. I'M NOT POSITIVE, BUT I KNOW THAT OUR
6 83-YEAR-OLD EAGLE SCOUT IN CHARGE OF THE PARKS OR THE TRAIL
7 MAINTENANCE AND THE EAGLE SCOUTS IS THE ONLY ONE THAT -- HE
8 WORKS IN OUR PARK AND WE'VE HAD ALMOST 300 EAGLE SCOUTS EARN
9 THEIR BADGES IN OUR PARK AND ALMOST ALL OF IT -- IT HAS BEEN
10 DIFFERENT MAINTENANCE, DIFFERENT PROJECT SIGNS, TRAIL
11 MAINTENANCE, ET CETERA.

12

13 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACILITY, WE KNOW.

14

15 **HEIDI WEBBER:** I'M SORRY?

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** I SAY YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACILITY.

18

19 **HEIDI WEBBER:** THANK YOU, WE THINK SO TOO.

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WELL THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING DOWN.

22

23 **HEIDI WEBBER:** OKAY, THANK YOU.

24



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1 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** KENNETH HAHN PARK USES SCOUTS. I KNOW THAT
2 THEY GET THEIR EAGLE BADGES THROUGH DESIGNING AND HELPING TO
3 CLEAR THE TRAILS, AND, OF COURSE, WE ALSO DO HAVE SIERRA CLUB,
4 A HEAVY PARTICIPATION IN THE CLEARINGS AREA WEEKEND.

5

6 **HEIDI WEBBER:** NO, WE HAVE JUST THE EAGLE SCOUTS AND OUR
7 VOLUNTEERS.

8

9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YEAH, HEAVILY THE SIERRA CLUB AND THE
10 SENIORS THROUGH IT. THANK YOU.

11

12 **HEIDI WEBBER:** THANK YOU.

13

14 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE WOULD NOW LIKE TO CALL UP GREGORY
15 ROBERTS. AND THEN WE'LL GO TO THE 660 GROUP. IS MR. ROBERTS
16 HERE?

17

18 **SPEAKER:** NOT HERE.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY. WE'LL NOW TAKE THE 660. WE'LL CALL --
21 I'D LIKE TO ASK THE ENTIRE GROUP TO COME UP. DO YOU MIND DOING
22 THAT? ANELLE REJEDA, TANYA AKEL, SHIRLEY CARTER, AND RAMON
23 RUBALCAVA. WE CAN BRING IS IT, HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL IT BE?
24 FOUR OR FIVE?

25



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1 **SPEAKER:** FIVE.

2

3 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF WE BRING TWO MORE CHAIRS THERE, WELL
4 ACTUALLY -- OKAY CAN SIT IT THERE AND THEN WE CAN MAKE IT ONE
5 PRESENTATION. HOW LONG DO YOU ANTICIPATE YOUR PRESENTATION
6 WILL BE? HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOUR PRESENTATION IS GOING TO
7 BE? HOW LONG?

8

9 **KATHY OCHOA:** 20 MINUTES. 15 MINUTES, AT LEAST.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN YOU TRY AND DO IT IN 15?

12

13 **SPEAKER:** WE WILL TRY, SUPERVISOR.

14

15 **SPEAKER:** I VOLUNTEER NOT TO SPEAK. [LAUGHTER].

16

17 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF YOU CAN TRY TO DO IT IN 15, IT WOULD BE
18 VERY HELPFUL TO US. THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET IS GOING TO BE
19 RELEASED IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES, BUT WE WILL WAIT TO HEAR ABOUT
20 IT LATER AFTER WE --

21

22 **SPEAKER:** YOU GO FIRST.

23

24 **KATHY OCHOA:** YEAH, GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS
25 KATHY OCHOA AND I'M HERE REPRESENTING S.E.I.U. LOCAL 660 AND



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1 ADDRESSING THE BUDGET PROPOSALS THAT AFFECT THE DEPARTMENT OF
2 HEALTH SERVICES. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU
3 TODAY. THESE ARE SOME SERIOUS BUDGET AND HEALTH CHALLENGES
4 THAT WE FACE. WELL, OF COURSE FOR THE UNION WORKFORCE ISSUES
5 ARE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT AND OUR PRIMARY FIDUCIARY OBLIGATION.
6 WE SHARE AN OVERRIDING CONCERN WITH THE COMMUNITY THAT THERE
7 MUST BE A HIGH QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE AND STABLE HEALTHCARE
8 DELIVERY SYSTEM WITHIN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THAT THE BUDGET
9 BE ORIENTED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE
10 SIGNIFICANT LIMITATIONS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE THE
11 TYPE OF CARE WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE AND IN THAT VEIN, WE
12 STAND READY TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY, THE STATE, AND OTHER
13 INTERESTED PARTIES TO REFORM AND MODERNIZE OUR SYSTEM AND
14 REMAIN MINDFUL OF THESE CONSTRAINTS. BEFORE FOCUSING ON SOME
15 VERY SPECIFIC ISSUES, WE THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE
16 THAT IMPORTANT BUDGET DECISIONS IN THIS AREA MUST BE MADE
17 WITHIN THE TEXT OF A SHARED VISION, A RESOURCE AVAILABILITY
18 AND DESIRED HEALTHCARE DELIVERY OUTCOMES. IN ADDITION TO SOME
19 SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE COUNTY D.H.S. REDESIGN PLAN
20 CODIFIED IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET, WE HOPE THAT THIS IN FUTURE
21 DISCUSSIONS WILL BRING US CLOSER TO BUILDING A CONSENSUS ABOUT
22 THE TYPE OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM WE NEED FOR LOS ANGELES
23 COUNTY. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT UNILATERAL DECISIONS MADE IN A
24 VACUUM WITHOUT THIS VISION MAY ALL TOO EASILY AND EVENTUALLY
25 BE CONDEMNED TO FAILURE. IT IS CRITICAL TO TAKE THE TIME NOW



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1 TO ENSURE THAT A THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE REASSESSMENT OF
2 THE BOARD MANDATED SERVICE REDUCTIONS ON PATIENT CARE THROUGH
3 THE DEPARTMENT IS STRATEGIC PLAN BE UNDERTAKEN. IN FACT, SINCE
4 THE REDUCTIONS DESCRIBED BY DR. GARTHWAITE WERE FIRST ADOPTED
5 BY THE BOARD IN JUNE 2002, ADDITIONAL RESOURCES HAVE BEEN
6 RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY THROUGH THE PROCEEDS OF MEASURE B AND
7 THE FEBRUARY 2003 FEDERAL AND STATE AGREEMENT ON L.A. COUNTY
8 HEALTH. THIS PROVIDES US WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO REDESIGN THE
9 REDESIGN. THEREFORE, WE URGE YOU TO ADOPT ONLY THE STATUS QUO
10 PROVISIONS OF THE BUDGET DURING THE FINAL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS
11 UNTIL THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN CONCLUDED. THE PLANNED CLOSURE OF
12 HIGH DESERT, THE CLOSURE OR PRIVATIZATION OF RANCHO LOS AMIGOS
13 NATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, THE REDUCTIONS OF SERVICES AT KING
14 DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND THE 100-BED REDUCTION AT L.A.C. U.S.C.
15 ARE POLICY PRESCRIPTIONS THAT WOULD IMPOSE MAJOR AND EVEN
16 LIFE-THREATENING ACCESS BARRIERS TO CARE AND MAY RESULT IN
17 ADDITIONAL COST, NOT SAVINGS, TO THE COUNTY. WITH RESPECT TO
18 THE CLOSURE OF RANCHO, THIS IS NOT ABOUT CLOSING A HIGH-COST
19 FACILITY. RANCHO IS EFFICIENTLY OPERATED AND COMPARABLE TO
20 OTHER REHAB FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRY. THIS IS NOT ABOUT THE
21 ELIMINATION OF UNNECESSARY SERVICES. THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT
22 CAPACITY AT OTHER FACILITIES TO PICK UP THE LOAD. THE
23 PROJECTED SAVINGS FROM CLOSING RANCHO AND AS EXPRESSED IN THE
24 BUDGET ARE LIKELY TO ILLUSORY. OTHER COUNTY FACILITIES AS WELL
25 AS PRIVATE FACILITIES WILL SEE INCREASED UTILIZATION BY FORMER



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1 AND POTENTIAL RANCHO PATIENTS IN NEED OF MORE COSTLY SERVICES.
2 INSTEAD OF ELIMINATING THE BURDEN OF COST, THE COUNTY PROPOSAL
3 SIMPLY SHIFTS THEM. S.E.I.U. LOCAL 660 BELIEVES THAT THE REAL
4 ISSUE AT HAND IS NOT RANCHO, BUT RATHER FINANCING THE PUBLIC
5 HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET IN L.A. COUNTY. THEREFORE S.E.I.U.
6 LOCAL 660 IS EXAMINING THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF
7 DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE HOSPITAL FUNDS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY.
8 WE BELIEVE THAT WITH MINOR ADJUSTMENTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF
9 THESE FUNDS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES, A DEDICATED
10 FUND CAN BE CREATED FOR RANCHO'S ONGOING NEEDS. IN SHORT,
11 CLOSING RANCHO IS A DRASTIC STEP THAT CAN'T BE EASILY UNDONE.
12 WE URGE YOU TO WORK WITH US TO EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES FOR
13 REVENUE IMPROVEMENT BEFORE ADOPTING NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. AND I
14 WOULD JUST LIKE TO RECOGNIZE RIGHT NOW THE PATIENTS AT RANCHO
15 WHO CAMPED OUT FOR 45 DAYS IN AN ACT OF PEACEFUL CIVIL
16 DISOBEDIENCE TO BRING ATTENTION TO THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT THE
17 CONTINUITY OF CARE AT THAT FACILITY. WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED
18 CHANGES AT HIGH DESERT, A PILOT HAS BEEN UNDERWAY TO ANALYZE
19 IF PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES AND THE
20 STATE CAN BE ESTABLISHED, BUT ONCE AGAIN, THE PRESCRIBED
21 CLOSURE PLANS ARE IN FULL SWING WITHOUT FINAL CONCLUSIONS OF
22 COST OR BENEFITS PRESENTED ON THE PILOT FOR THIS BOARD IS, THE
23 UNION IS, OR THE PUBLIC'S CONSIDERATION. WITH RESPECT TO THE
24 REDUCTION OF 100 BEDS AT L.A.C./U.S.C., IT'S OBVIOUS THAT
25 ELIMINATING 100 BEDS WILL IMPACT THE ENTIRE TRAUMA SYSTEM THAT



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1 THE ELECTORATE VOTED TO SAVE WHEN THEY PASSED MEASURE B LAST
2 NOVEMBER. THE COMBINED IMPACTS OF THE BED DECREASE AND THE
3 HIGH DESERT AND RANCHO CLOSURE WILL SEVERELY CONGEST THE
4 HOSPITAL AND MAKE DELAYS TO TIMELY CARE SIGNIFICANTLY WORSE.
5 WE BELIEVE THAT IF ADOPTED AS PROPOSED, THE COUNTY IS D.H.S.
6 BUDGET WILL NOT ONLY REDUCE ACCESS TO CARE AND HARM PATIENTS,
7 BUT ALSO ACTUALLY INCREASE THE LONGER-TERM BURDEN THAT THESE
8 PATIENTS WILL EVENTUALLY PRESENT TO THE HEALTHCARE DELIVERY
9 SYSTEM. THIS HELPS EXPLAIN OUR STRONG POSITION OF OPPOSITION
10 TO THESE BUDGET PROPOSALS AND OUR STRONG COMMITMENT TO ACCESS
11 MORE RESOURCES TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS AND ELIMINATE ANY
12 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SHORTSIGHTED BUDGET
13 POLICY IN THIS REGARD. IN REVIEWING THE D.H.S. BUDGET, WE URGE
14 THE BOARD FIRST TO KEEP IN MIND THAT WHERE THERE ARE
15 EXCESSIVE, UNCOMPENSATED BURDENS, THERE SHOULD BE ADEQUATE AND
16 APPROPRIATE FINANCING POOLS TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO DELIVER
17 NEEDED CARE. WE NEED TO WORK TOWARD THIS GOALS. PROVIDERS
18 WITHIN THE COUNTY, WHETHER THEY ARE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR
19 PROFESSIONALS, SHOULD BE TAPPED TO WORK MORE CLOSELY AND
20 COOPERATIVELY TO DISTRIBUTE MORE EQUITABLY BOTH THE BURDENS OF
21 UNCOMPENSATED CARE AND THE BENEFITS OF COMPENSATED CARE.
22 ANOTHER REAL CONCERN OF OURS IS THAT THERE BE ADEQUATE
23 STAFFING TO ENSURE ADEQUATE CARE FOR BEDS THAT ARE FILLED WITH
24 ALL TOO FREQUENTLY UNDERSERVED PATIENTS. WE WOULD STRONGLY
25 SUPPORT APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR THESE COSTS. IT



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1 IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE LOOK TOWARD THE COUNTY'S RECOMMENDATIONS
2 AROUND GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR POSITIVE MEDICAL OUTCOMES
3 AND REDUCING MEDICAL ERRORS. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT SUCH
4 INITIATIVES. HOWEVER, INVESTMENTS IN USER FRIENDLY LOW
5 MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY IS LARGELY MISSING FROM THIS PROPOSED
6 BUDGET. TO THE EXTENT THAT WE BELIEVE THAT THESE INVESTMENTS
7 NEED TO BE INCLUDED, TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH INVESTMENTS TO
8 ESTABLISH TECHNOLOGICAL ASSETS IN PRIVATE SETTINGS WOULD
9 OCCUR, IT WOULD SEEM REASONABLE TO SUGGEST THAT THEY HELP
10 OFFSET SOME OF THE COSTS. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A RANGE OF
11 REVENUE MAXIMIZATION INITIATIVES THAT CAN EITHER BE BUILT FROM
12 CURRENT MODELS OR ACCESSED MORE EFFECTIVELY, THAT CAN PROVIDE
13 THE VITALLY-NEEDED ADDITIONAL FINANCING THAT WE NEED. IN
14 CLOSING, SUPERVISORS, WE CALL FOR RESTORATION OF CUTS PROPOSED
15 IN SCENARIO THREE THAT WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BY JULY 2003
16 BECAUSE OF LEGAL ISSUES, CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, PLANNING
17 ISSUES, OR FINAL BOARD OF SUPERVISOR APPROVAL. THIS INCLUDES
18 THE CLOSURE OF RANCHO, THE ELIMINATION OF BEDS AT HIGH DESERT
19 -- I MEAN THE CLOSURE AT HIGH DESERT, ELIMINATION OF BEDS AT
20 L.A.C./U.S.C., STAFFING REDUCTIONS AT COM CENTERS AND THE
21 TRANSFER OF C.H.P. TO L.A. CARE. OF COURSE YOU'RE WONDERING
22 HOW WILL THIS BE FINANCED, WHERE ARE THE SOURCES OF REVENUE TO
23 MAKE THESE RESTORATIONS AT THIS TIME. FIRST OF ALL, WE WOULD
24 LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WE EXAMINE ALL FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN SET
25 ASIDE FOR BUDGETARY UNCERTAINTIES OR PROVISIONAL USE AND THEY



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1 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THIS END. WE ALSO RECOMMEND 100%
2 REIMBURSEMENT TO D.H.S. FOR LIQUIDATED ASSETS RATHER THAN HAVE
3 THEM GO EXCLUSIVELY TO THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND. WE ALSO
4 SUGGEST THAT WE DIRECT 50% OF PROCEEDS FROM EXISTING
5 DEVELOPMENT AT RANCHO'S SOUTH CAMPUS TO D.H.S. THIS BENEFIT
6 SHOULD NOT ACCRUE EXCLUSIVELY TO COUNTY GENERAL FUND OR OTHER
7 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS. AND HOW WELL GOALS TO ACHIEVE INVESTMENT
8 IN TECHNOLOGY BE ACHIEVED. WE THINK THAT D.H.S. SHOULD KEEP A
9 PERCENTAGE OF SAVINGS THAT ARE CALLED FOR IN ITS BUDGET AND
10 USE THEM -- REDIRECT THEM FOR INVESTMENT AND TO STRENGTHEN
11 THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT IF THIS BOARD
12 DECREASES THE THRESHOLD FOR THE NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED BY
13 I.H.S.S. WORKERS, WE CAN BRING MORE COUNTY UNINSURED INTO
14 COVERAGE AND CARE WITHIN OUR SYSTEM. WE ALSO CALL FOR THE
15 COUNTY TO FREEZE COLAS FOR CORPORATE SUPPLIERS OF MATERIALS
16 AND GOODS WITHIN D.H.S. IT WOULD BE FAIRLY SIMPLE TO IDENTIFY
17 A REDUCTION BASELINE AND RENEGOTIATE CONTRACTS FOR REDUCED
18 RATES FOR SUPPLIERS OF MATERIALS AND GOODS WITH D.H.S. --
19 WITHIN D.H.S. FOR A STATED PERIOD OF TIME. WE ALSO URGE THIS
20 BOARD TO COMPLY WITH CIVIL SERVICE AND BOARD OF SUPERVISOR
21 POLICY AND CORRECT -- AND URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO CORRECT
22 ONGOING ABUSES OF TEMPORARY PERSONNEL AGREEMENTS BY CONVERTING
23 SERVICES AND SUPPLIES, REVENUE BACK TO SERVICE, I MEAN
24 ALLOCATIONS, BACK TO SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FOR
25 POSITIONS FOR WHICH THERE IS AN ONGOING NEED. WE ALSO CALL



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1 UPON THE COUNTY TO IMMEDIATELY CONVERT LONG-TERM TEMPS TO
2 PERMANENT POSITIONS, AS CALLED FOR BY CIVIL SERVICE. WE REJECT
3 BUDGET CHANGES THAT ARE ROOTED IN NEW CONTRACTING OUT
4 PROPOSALS. THAT IS FOR PROPOSALS FOR WHICH THERE IS NO CURRENT
5 BOARD OF SUPERVISOR APPROVED CONTRACT. WITHIN THE BUDGET ARE
6 CHANGES THAT CALL FOR REDUCTIONS IN STAFFING FOR COMMUNITY
7 HEALTH PLAN AND FOR CHANGES IN REVENUE MANAGEMENT, BUT THERE'S
8 NO CONTRACT IN PLACE THAT WOULD DEMAND THAT AT THIS TIME. WE
9 ALSO WOULD LIKE THIS BOARD TO EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES TO
10 ESTABLISH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS THAT USED IN
11 DENVER IN WHICH THE COUNTY MAINTAINS AND HAS REOPENED
12 EMERGENCY SERVICES IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS. SUCH APPROACHES HAVE
13 BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN SUPPLEMENTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
14 REIMBURSEMENT STREAMS THAT SUPPORT THE COST OF THESE SERVICES
15 AND YIELD ENHANCED REVENUE FOR OTHER SERVICES. FINALLY, WE
16 WOULD LIKE FULL DISCLOSURE OF ALL AVAILABLE SERVICES WITHIN
17 THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE ONGOING FUNDING FOR D.H.S. THANK YOU.

18

19 **SHIRLEY CARTER:** GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS SHIRLEY CARTER. I'M
20 A STEWARD AT LOCAL 660 AND I'M ALSO AN ELIGIBILITY WORKER IN
21 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AND HAVE BEEN FOR
22 OVER 15 YEARS. YOU CAN BET THAT WE AT 660 ARE DOING OUR JOB TO
23 EDUCATE SACRAMENTO ABOUT THE WORK WE DO AND THE CRUCIAL
24 SERVICES WE PROVIDE. WE KNOW THE COUNTY IS UNDER-FUNDED AND WE
25 WANT TO WORK TOGETHER TO SECURE ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING AND



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1 INCREASED STATE REVENUE FOR THE QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES. AT
2 THE SAME TIME, WE WHO WORK IN THE FRONT LINES PROVIDING PUBLIC
3 SERVICES NEED YOUR SUPPORT. WE NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE
4 CRUCIAL PROBLEMS OF UNDERSTAFFING IN THE DISTRICTS THAT ARE
5 GOING ON NOW. THE LEVEL OF STRESS AND THE DIFFICULTY OF
6 MAINTAINING AN EVER-GROWING NUMBER OF HUNDRED OF CASES IS
7 REACHING UNBEARABLE LEVELS. THE PROPOSAL TO CUT CALWORKS BY
8 751 CASE CARRYING ELIGIBILITY WORKERS BY 45% JUST WON'T WORK.
9 THAT MEANS THAT THE PROBLEMS WILL BE -- THIS MEANS THE PROGRAM
10 WILL BE STAFFED AT 54% OF NEED. I AM GOING TO GOING TO STATE
11 THE OBVIOUS BECAUSE SOMEONE NEEDS TO KNOW -- NEEDS TO KNOW --
12 THE ERROR RATE FOR CALWORKS FOOD STAMPS AND MEDI-CAL WILL
13 SKYROCKET. APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATIONS WILL NOT BE
14 PROCESSED TIMELY. THE MORALE, THE STRESS LEVELS OF WORKERS
15 WILL WORSEN. MORE FAMILIES WILL HAVE PROBLEMS ACCESSING THEIR
16 WORKERS FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE. E.W. IS MAKE SURE
17 CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES RECEIVE CORE SERVICES THEY RELY ON
18 FOR SURVIVAL. ASK A MOTHER ON WELFARE TO TELL YOU WHAT SHE
19 CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT AND I WILL BET SHE WILL TELL YOU CASH AND
20 MEDI-CAL FIRST. SO WHY DID WE COME LAST IN THE PROPOSED
21 BUDGET? WHY DID THE BOARD CHOOSE TO FUND NEW PROJECTS WHEN
22 IT'S IN THE BUDGET MONEY OVERSTAFFING FOR CORE ELIGIBILITY
23 SERVICES. WHAT IS EVERYONE THINKING? HOW IS A PROGRAM GOING TO
24 RUN WITH HALF THE STAFF? IT MAY BECOME A FACT THAT THE COUNTY
25 WILL HAVE LESS MONEY TO RUN CALWORKS, BUT THE COUNTY CAN



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1 CHOOSE WHERE TO CUT AND WE HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS. FIRST, WE
2 ASK THAT YOU CANCEL THE GANG CASE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT FOR
3 A.C.S. AND MAXIMUS AND ALLOW CURRENT WORKERS TO HANDLE THE
4 CASES ONCE AGAIN. THIS WILL SAVE APPROXIMATELY \$12 MILLION A
5 YEAR GENERATED BY PROVIDING THE SERVICES IN-HOUSE. BRINGING
6 STAGE ONE CHILD CARE CONTRACTS BACK IN-HOUSE WOULD SAVE AN
7 ADDITIONAL \$10 MILLION. D.P.S.S. WILL BE COMING BEFORE THE
8 BOARD SOON TO EXTEND THESE CONTRACTS FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS,
9 WASTING \$5 MILLION THAT COULD BE USED. WE ASK THE DEPARTMENT
10 TO LOOK AT ALL CONTRACTS FOR POTENTIAL COST SAVINGS. D.P.S.
11 ALSO PROPOSES CUTTING 114 LIVE STAFF AND GENERAL LEAVE TO COME
12 UP WITH THE COUNTY MATCH FUNDS TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL STATE
13 FUNDING FOR LEADER. LEADER HAS MADE OUR WORK MORE DIFFICULT
14 AND HAS INCREASED THE TIME IT TAKES TO PROCESS A CASE. ON TOP
15 OF THAT, THE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO STAFF G.R. A 64% NEED TO FUND
16 LEADER. THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. LEADER HAS SUCKED UP ENOUGH
17 RESOURCES AS IT IS WITHOUT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF -- THE
18 QUALITY OF THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE. AND I.H.S.S., OUR CLERICAL
19 STAFF IS DYING. WHILE D.P.S.S. IS PROPOSING TO HIRE 55% NEW
20 SOCIAL WORKERS AND I.H.S. TO FUND A GROWING NEED, THEY HAVE
21 NOT INCREASED THE NUMBER OF CLERICAL STAFF. SENIOR CLERKS
22 SOLVE PAYMENT PROBLEMS, DO THE PAPERWORK AND TIME SHEET FOR
23 PROVIDERS, AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 12 TO 1,800 CASES. THE
24 CASELOAD FOR CLERICAL AND I.H.S.S. IS DOUBLE WHAT IT SHOULD
25 BE. HOW CAN YOU HAVE MORE SOCIAL WORKERS AND NOT ADD ONE



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1 ADDITIONAL CLERK? THIS DOES NOT MAKE SENSE. I THANK YOU FOR
2 LISTENING.

3

4 **LAWRENCE HILL:** GOOD MORNING, MY NAME IS LAWRENCE HILL AND I AM
5 AN S.E.I.U. 660 STEWARD. I HAVE BEEN A FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER
6 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES FOR OVER 25 YEARS.
7 RECENTLY LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECEIVED ITS STATE FISCAL YEAR
8 2003/2004 PROPOSED INITIAL BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE CHILD
9 SUPPORT PROGRAM. IT WAS VERY FRIGHTENING TO LEARN THAT THE
10 PROPOSED FUNDING IS \$10.6 MILLION LESS THAN OUR CURRENT YEAR'S
11 BUDGET. THIS REPRESENTS A 7% CUT TO OUR ADMINISTRATION BUDGET.
12 STILL MORE PROPOSALS MAY BRING FURTHER REDUCTIONS. WHILE WE
13 UNDERSTAND THE STATE IS EXPERIENCING A SEVERE BUDGET CRISIS,
14 WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH SEVERE CUTS TO THE CHILD SUPPORT
15 PROGRAM MAKES PHYSICAL SENSE. THE WORK WE DO GENERATES
16 MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR THE STATE AND COUNTY. CHILD SUPPORT
17 SERVICES HELPS PULL CHILDREN OUT OF POVERTY, CREATES FINANCIAL
18 AND FAMILY STABILITY, KEEPS CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES OFF OF
19 WELFARE, INCREASED THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH PRIVATE HEALTH
20 INSURANCE AND LOWERS PROTECTIVE SERVICE CASES. I, ALONG WITH
21 OTHER S.E.I.E. -- S.E.I.U. BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE EDUCATING
22 STATE LEGISLATORS ABOUT THE VALUED SERVICES WE PROVIDE AND THE
23 NEED TO PRESERVE THEM. WE ARE DEMANDING THAT THE STATE
24 GENERATE NEW REVENUES THROUGH CERTAIN TAXES AND THEN TO
25 CORPORATE LOOPHOLES AND INCREASE THE TAX -- THE TOP TAX



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1 BRACKETS ON THE HIGHEST INCOME TAXPAYERS. WE ARE MAINTAINING A
2 STRONG PRESENCE IN SACRAMENTO AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT LOS
3 ANGELES COUNTY MAY FACE SIGNIFICANT CUTS IN FUNDING. AT THE
4 SAME TIME BUT WE KNOW THAT THE BOARD AND THE CHILD SUPPORT
5 PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MR. BROWNING, HAVE SOME DISCRETION IN HOW
6 CUTS ARE MADE. WE WANT TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO THOSE DECISIONS.
7 FOR EXAMPLE, WE BELIEVE THAT IF LOS ANGELES HAS TO DO MORE
8 WITH LESS, SO SHOULD FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES WHO HOLD A CONTRACT
9 WITH THE DEPARTMENT. SPECIFICALLY, H.C.S., WHICH BOUGHT OUT
10 LOCKHEED I.M.S., HOLDS AN 8.6 MILLION PHYSICAL AGENT CONTRACT.
11 IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE FOR THE CONTRACTOR TO REAP HUGE PROFITS
12 WHEN OUR FUNDING IS SO PRECARIOUS. SECOND, AS A FAMILY SUPPORT
13 OFFICER, I DIRECTLY IMPACT THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN'S LIVES FOR
14 THE BETTER. LESS FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICERS, MEANS FEWER FAMILIES
15 BEING SERVED IN A TIMELY MANNER. AS A FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER,
16 I HAVE FOUR LEVELS OF MANAGEMENT OVER ME, AND THAT IS NOT
17 COUNTING THE DIRECTOR AND HIS DEPUTIES. THE DEPARTMENT
18 CONTINUES TO HAVE TOO MANY LAYERS OF MANAGEMENT SINCE THE
19 STATE'S REORGANIZATION. IF STAFF IS TO BE CUT, IT SHOULD BE
20 THOSE WHO HAVE THE LEAST IMPACT ON CHILDREN BEING SERVED.
21 THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YOU'VE SO FAR GONE 20 MINUTES.

24

25 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** SUPERVISOR, WE HAVE ONE ENDING STATEMENT.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU.

3

4 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** GOOD AFTERNOON.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN YOU DO IT IN FIVE MINUTES?

7

8 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** IT'LL BE FIVE MINUTES, SUPERVISOR.

9

10 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OR LESS.

11

12 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** MAYBE LESS.

13

14 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT.

15

16 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** SUPERVISOR, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, IT WAS THE

17 LAST TIME THAT YOU HAD NO TIME -- HERE WE GO. GOOD AFTERNOON.

18 MY NAME IS RAMON RUBALCAVA, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF S.E.I.U.

19 LOCAL 660. THE 45,000 COUNTY WORKERS REPRESENTED BY LOCAL 660

20 ARE GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SERVICE REDUCTIONS AND THE

21 POLICIES REFLECTED IN THE PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE

22 FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1. OUR MEMBERS ARE KEENLY AWARE OF

23 THE COUNTY'S DIMINISHED FISCAL SITUATION BECAUSE OF THE SLUMP

24 IN THE ECONOMY AND THE STILL-EVOLVING STATE BUDGET CRISIS. FOR

25 THEY ARE THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES THAT STAFF AND OPERATE THE



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1 COUNTY'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES, THE ANIMAL SHELTERS, PROBATION
2 CAMPS, MAINTAIN THE PARKS AND RUN ITS RECREATIONAL SERVICES
3 PROGRAMS, PROVIDE THE CRITICAL PUBLIC SERVICES AND SUSTAIN THE
4 VULNERABLE SAFETY NET OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HEALTH SERVICES
5 SO PRECIOUS TO THE COUNTY'S RESIDENTS IN THESE DIRE TIMES.
6 YES, OUR MEMBERS UNDERSTAND THE COUNTY FISCAL SITUATION, BUT
7 THEY ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE COUNTY'S HIGHEST PRIORITY SHOULD
8 BE TO PRESERVE THOSE CRITICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC SERVICES, THAT
9 THEY VIEW AS THE COUNTY'S CORE MISSION TO ITS RESIDENTS,
10 PARTICULARLY THE MOST VULNERABLE. LOCAL 660 MEMBERS ALSO
11 UNDERSTAND THE COUNTY IS NEED FOR ADEQUATE REVENUES AND THEY
12 ACT ON THAT KNOWLEDGE. LATE LAST NIGHT, 50 BUS WEARIED COUNTY
13 WORKERS ARRIVED BACK IN LOS ANGELES AFTER A FULL DAY OF
14 LOBBYING IN SACRAMENTO. COUNTY WORKERS REPRESENTED BY LOCAL
15 660 ARE PREPARED TO DO MORE, BUT THEY ALSO WANT TO ENSURE THAT
16 THEIR EFFORTS ARE NOT SPURNED BY COUNTY POLICIES THAT PROMOTE
17 PRIVATIZATION AND BELITTLE THEIR COUNTY -- THEIR CAREER-LONG
18 DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE, INSTEAD OF THE COUNTY INVESTING
19 IN A MORE ACCOUNTABLE AND EFFICIENT COUNTY WORK FORCE. BUDGET
20 SHORTFALLS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND D.P.S.S. AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS
21 MUST NOT BE BRIDGED BY REDUCING OR ELIMINATING COUNTY CORE
22 MISSION PROGRAMS WHILE SPARING SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH
23 VENDOR AGREEMENTS. EXISTING SERVICE CONTRACTS SHOULD BE
24 RENEGOTIATED OR CANCELED. LOCAL 660 WILL WORK TO PROTECT
25 SERVICES. COUNTY WORKERS ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING TO OBTAINING



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1 DEDICATED REVENUE STREAMS AND TO HELP RECTIFY THE COUNTY IS
2 STRUCTURAL PROBLEM. WITH THE SAME ENERGY AND RESOURCEFULNESS
3 THAT MADE POSSIBLE THE PASSAGE OF MEASURE B, COUNTY WORKERS
4 HAVE UNITED WITH OTHER S.E.I.U. LOCALS, OTHER UNIONS,
5 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS TO FIGHT FOR A FAIR
6 STATE BUDGET. THESE COUNTY WORKERS, THESE 17,000 CLERICAL
7 WORKERS, THESE 5,000 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL WORKERS,
8 THESE 400 LIBRARIANS, THESE 3,000 BLUE-COLLAR CUSTODIAN
9 WORKERS, THESE 6,000 REGISTERED NURSES AND 3,000 MORE IN OTHER
10 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS, MORE 7,000 ELIGIBILITY WORKERS AND THE
11 REMAINING 4,000 WORKERS IN OTHER COUNTIES SPECIALIZED
12 CLASSIFICATIONS CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE DAILY TO DELIVER QUALITY
13 SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS WHILE FACING INADEQUATE STAFFING
14 LEVELS AND AN EVER-INCREASING WORKLOAD. THESE COUNTY WORKERS
15 CALL ON YOUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PROPERLY FUND PUBLIC
16 LIBRARIES, CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, AND OTHER VITAL PUBLIC
17 MISSION PROGRAMS. SUPERVISORS, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND I
18 WANT TO GIVE TO YOU OUR BROCHURE THAT IS BEING DISTRIBUTED
19 THIS WEEK TO OUR MEMBERS. AS IT KICKS OFF OUR CAMPAIGN AROUND
20 THE BUDGET CRISIS AND WE'RE DOING OUR PART TO BRING SERVICES
21 TO THIS COUNTY. WE ASK THE BOARD TO JOIN WITH US IN THAT
22 PARTNERSHIP. THANK YOU.

23

24 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I GATHER THE --
25 THEY'RE GOING TO ANNOUNCE IT'S A \$38 INSTEAD OF A \$35 BILLION



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1 DEFICIT. [Reference is to announcement of projected State
2 Budget deficit.] SO WARREN WILLIAMS, RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY
3 AND DOUGLAS BARNETT. JUST LET ME GET THESE. ALL RIGHT. ALL
4 RIGHT. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME.

5

6 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** MY NAME IS RAHIMAJ --

7

8 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, HAVE A SEAT, PLEASE. WARREN
9 WILLIAMS WOULD COME FIRST.

10

11 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** WARREN ASKED ME TO GO FIRST.

12

13 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, FINE, OKAY.

14

15 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** DOUG BARNETT, I'M A RESIDENT OF ACTON,
16 CALIFORNIA. MIKE, YOU MAY KNOW ME FROM TWO TERMS ON THE ACTON
17 TOWN COUNCIL. I'VE SPENT OVER 15 YEARS IN A QUAKE REMAINING
18 HOUSE DOWN IN SOUTH CENTRAL IN THE SECOND DISTRICT. I'VE LOST
19 PROBABLY 20% OF MY NEIGHBORS IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS AS THEIR
20 PAID-FOR-HOUSING HAS ROLLED OVER INTO NEW -- A NEW TAX BASE
21 FOR THE ASSESSOR. THE SECOND DISTRICT, FROM MY VIEW, IS
22 PROBABLY INCREASING REVENUES THROUGH TAXES REMARKABLY. WITH A
23 -- THAT'S 158 SQUARE MILES FOR THAT 2 MILLION PEOPLE. IF YOU
24 ELIMINATE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, WE HAVE A DENSITY OF PROBABLY
25 25 TO 50 PEOPLE PER ACRE. THERE'S A SINGLE BUILDING IN THE



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1 SECOND DISTRICT THAT PUTS A QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE
2 THROUGH IT AT VIRTUALLY NO COST TO THE COUNTY, THEY TRY TO
3 CALL. MY POINT IS THE DYNAMICS OF WHO LIVES IN THE SECOND
4 DISTRICT IS SO DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHER FOUR DISTRICTS, AND
5 I'VE SPENT SO MUCH TIME DOWN THERE, I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THOSE
6 PEOPLE, BUT I WILL SEE THAT WARREN HAS A PLAN HERE, A SMALL,
7 TINY PLAN THAT THE PEOPLE OF THAT DISTRICT LEARN HOW TO SPEAK
8 FOR THEMSELVES BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I'VE WATCHED
9 THESE PEOPLE FROM MY COMMUNITY IN ACTON AND THE TRAIL
10 DISTRICTS AND ALL THAT, THERE'S A MANNER, A WAY OF APPROACHING
11 THE BOARD HERE THAT I'VE WATCHED FOR YEARS, I'VE SEEN 4 OR 500
12 PEOPLE COME DOWN HERE FOR THE ISSUES OF THE NORTH COUNTY, AND
13 BE ABLE TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU. I'VE NOT SEEN THAT IN THE SECOND
14 DISTRICT.

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WELL YOU JUST HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE RIGHT
17 HEARINGS. I THINK THAT YOU MUST BE HERE PUBLIC COMMENT, BUT
18 WHEN THERE IS AN ISSUE OF SUBSTANCE AS IT RELATES TO THE
19 SECOND DISTRICT, YOU HAVE PRESENTATION BY HOMEOWNERS AND
20 PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE OF SUBSTANCE, BUT -- AND SO I HOPE THAT
21 YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO OBSERVE THAT AT SOME TIME IN THE
22 FUTURE.

23

24 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** OKAY. I DIDN'T -- THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO
25 DEFEND YOURSELF.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YES. GO AHEAD. WARREN WILLIAMS. OKAY, MS.
3 BRINKLEY.

4

5 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** MY NAME IS RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY,
6 I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL REFLECTION PRODUCTION
7 COMPANY LTD. I'M ALSO IN ASSOCIATION WITH WARREN WILLIAMS'
8 ORGANIZATION COALITION FOR BLACKS BEST INTEREST. I'D LIKE
9 HOPEFULLY THE PROGRAM WILL BE FUNDED, IF NOT ALSO I'D LIKE TO
10 SHARE SOME OF OUR INFORMATION. THIS PARTICULAR INFORMATION WAS
11 SUBMITTED IN 1979. I'D LIKE TO REISSUE IT AND ADD JUST A FEW
12 MORE WITH IT. I'LL JUST TOUCH ON THREE OF THE FOUR OF THE
13 AREAS WE'RE REQUESTING. AN EDUCATIONAL ARTS TELECOMMUNICATION
14 FACILITY, A HOSPITAL WITH THE TRAINING UNIT OF DOCTORS AND
15 NURSES AND AN ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE DOCTORS, AN
16 AMBULANCE TRAINING AND FUNCTIONAL SERVICE. ALSO -- OH, THE
17 FIRST WAS A TELEVISION, LIKE A STATION AND A SCHOOL FOR THE
18 ARTS AND FOR EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT. THERE'S OTHERS THAT I'D
19 LIKE TO ADD. NOW, THE LAST PORTION WOULD BE JUSTICE, EDUCATION
20 -- EDUCATION, LEGAL DEFENSE FOR A CIVILIZED SOCIETY. I --
21 YESTERDAY, THEY BROUGHT MY GRANDSON -- I'LL MAKE THIS BRIEF,
22 THEY BROUGHT MY GRANDSON HOME, HE WAS WALKING, THE POLICE SAID
23 HE HAD A LARGE JACKET ON. I SAID, "IT'S COLD." THEY BROUGHT
24 HIM HOME. ON ONE HAND, I'M DELIGHTED THAT THEY WERE, YOU KNOW,
25 LOOKING AFTER THIS 16-YEAR-OLD. ON THE OTHER, I'M SAYING,



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1 "WAIT A MINUTE, THIS IS PROFILING." THEY DID NOT PICK UP THE
2 OTHER YOUNG GENTLEMAN THAT HAPPENED TO BE OF A DIFFERENT RACE,
3 AND WE INCLUDE ALL PEOPLE IN OUR RACE, BUT HE DID NOT PICK HIM
4 UP, BROUGHT MY GRANDSON HOME. I HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY
5 ASSAULTED, VERBALLY ASSAULTED BY POLICE IN YOUR -- EXCUSE ME,
6 I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS, 70, THE YEAR AGO IT WAS AT LEAST 7 YEARS
7 AGO, '77, '78. MY SON, AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, HE'S FIGHTING
8 HIS CASE. HE'S INCARCERATED IN THE TWIN TOWER LOS ANGELES
9 MEN'S CENTER. HE WAS PLACED IN THERE AND HE WAS FIGHTING HIS
10 CASE PRO PER. HISSELF, AND SOME OTHER GENTLEMEN, THEY'RE NOT -
11 - THEY WERE FIGHTING BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT GETTING THEIR FAIR
12 SHARE AS FAR AS THEY'RE CONCERNED. FOR EXAMPLE, ONE -- FIVE
13 BEDS FOR ONE PERSON. THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE LIBRARY.
14 THEY LET THEM OUT "X" AMOUNT OF TIMES TWO HOURS TO GO TO THE
15 LIBRARY, AND A LONG STORY SHORT, THEY FINALLY PUT HIM INTO A
16 MONTH OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT. HE SPOKE OUT TO THIS LADY
17 OFFICER, I GUESS, STATING HER HAIR WAS VERY PRETTY. THEY PUT
18 HIM IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, I GUESS BASICALLY BECAUSE OF
19 WHATEVER. AT ANY RATE, MY SON WAS PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY
20 INDIVIDUALS AND YOUNG GANG BANGERS. HE MENTIONED THEY ARE
21 BEING USED, THEY'RE YOUNG, THEY DON'T REALLY KNOW. THEN THEY
22 SAID -- THIS WAS THE DORMITORY THAT ATTACKED HIM. THEN THEY
23 SENT ANOTHER GENTLEMAN AND/OR TWO, HE ATTACKED HIM. AFTER MY
24 SON VERBALLY EXPLAINED TO HIM HE'S BEING USED AND DA DA DA,
25 THE GENTLEMAN SAID, "I WILL NOT ATTACK YOU, I WILL HELP YOU



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1 OUT OF THIS SITUATION." GO GET YOUR THINGS. MY SON SAID, "NO,
2 YOU GO GET THEM." AT ANY RATE, HE REQUESTED THE DEPUTIES TO
3 LET HIM OUT. THEY LET HIM OUT. MY SON CRAWLED OUT. HE DIDN'T
4 WALK. THE OTHER YOUNG MAN CARRIED HIS BELONGINGS, THE OFFICERS
5 STARTED KICKING HIS BELONGINGS ALL OVER THE PLACE. THEN THEY
6 TOLD HIM TO LIE DOWN ON THE FLOOR, HANDCUFFED, AND GET UP. AT
7 ANY RATE, THEY END UP KNEES IN MY SON, GRABBING HIM BY HIS
8 HAIR, CARRYING HIM OUT, THE OTHER GENTLEMAN -- GENTLEMAN --
9 THE OTHER PERSON CARRYING HIS FEET, MY SON SCREAMING, NINE,
10 FIVE, X AMOUNT OF OTHER OFFICERS CAME, 'WHERE DO YOU HURT?' 'I
11 HURT HERE,' HE WAS HANDCUFFED I BELIEVE, I'M NOT POSITIVE, PUT
12 THEIR KNEE IN MY SON. THE NURSE CAME, AND THAT'S WHEN HE SAID,
13 "I NEED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE." HE WAS SAYING IT ALL THE TIME OR
14 WHATEVER. THEY KICKED HIS PAPERS, FOUND OUT HE WAS PRO PER.
15 SERGEANT DEPUTY LEFT. "I'M NOT IN THIS." YOU'RE ALREADY IN IT.
16 YOU SAW THIS HAPPEN. YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING. THE NURSE -- LONG
17 STORY SHORT, HE ENDED UP GOING TO MEDICAL, HAD AN OPERATION
18 BECAUSE HE WAS LITERALLY FRACTURED IN THE SYNOVIAL --

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DO YOU -- ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE FACT
21 THAT WE DO HAVE AN OFFICER, AN O.I.C. AS WELL AS AN OMBUDSMAN
22 PROGRAM?

23

24 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** THEY CAME BUT THEY DIDN'T DO
25 ANYTHING. HE WAS A LITTLE ANGRY BECAUSE HE HAD TALKED TO MY



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1 SON PREVIOUSLY, AND THEN WHEN I CALLED, HE CAME BACK, HE STILL
2 DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, THEY'RE VERBALLY ASSAULTING HIM.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** LET ME JUST SAY THIS IS NOT A HEARING ON
5 INDIVIDUAL ISSUES. IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE FROM OUR
6 OFFICE, WE CAN GET RANDY TAHARA WHO WILL TALK TO YOU ABOUT
7 YOUR, YES.

8

9 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** RANDY TAHARA.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** RIGHT. IF YOU'LL JUST STEP OVER HERE,
12 SHE'LL TALK TO YOU. I HAVE TO -- WE CAN'T ADDRESS INDIVIDUAL
13 ISSUES. THIS IS A BUDGET HEARING.

14

15 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** CERTAINLY. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT
16 FOR THE JUSTICE EDUCATIONAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND IN OUR PACKAGE
17 AS WELL. PARDON ME FOR TAKING SO MUCH OF YOUR TIME, BUT THANK
18 YOU VERY MUCH.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WARREN WILLIAMS. ALL RIGHT,
21 SOMEONE CAN GET THE INFORMATION, YOUR NAME AND THE BOOKING
22 NUMBER OF YOUR SON AND WHERE HE IS, AND WE CAN CHECK ON IT.

23

24 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** CERTAINLY THANK YOU SUPERVISOR --
25 SUPERINTENDENT.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IS GEORGE LACURE HERE?

3

4 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** YVONNE BURKE, THANK YOU MA'AM.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY, THANK YOU, IS GEORGE LACURE HERE?

7 OKAY RANDY TAHARA WILL BE HERE WILL BE HERE, WE COULD GET THE
8 INFORMATION, YES?

9

10 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** IS IT POSSIBLE MS. YVONNE BURKE THAT THERE'S
11 ANOTHER PARTY HERE QUEENIE, IF SHE COULD COME UP BEFORE ME.

12

13 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** NO YOU GO ON AND FINISH BECAUSE I HAVE
14 OTHER PEOPLE WHO WERE SIGNED UP THAT I HAVE.

15

16 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** BEFORE HER, OKAY, THANK YOU.

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF SHE'S ONE OF THE PEOPLE WE WILL BE
19 CALLING HER.

20

21 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** I'VE SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL THAT I'M HOPING
22 THAT EVERY SUPERVISOR HAS BEFORE THEM, DOES EVERYONE HAVE A
23 COPY OF THE PROPOSAL THAT'S BEEN SENT. OKAY, WE ARE REQUESTING
24 THAT THAT PROPOSAL WILL BE SUPPORTED AND FUNDED. WE KNOW THIS
25 IS A TIME THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND



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1 INDIVIDUALS AND THE SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE ASKING FOR FUNDS AND
2 ASKING THAT THEY DON'T LOSE ANY MONEY. HOWEVER, IMAGINE IF
3 THERE IS A FIRE AND THERE IS A CELEBRITY AND A HOMELESS PERSON
4 INSIDE THIS MINI MART THAT'S BURNING AND A FIREMAN GOES THERE
5 AND HE RUSHES IN AND THE CELEBRITY, WHO IS IN GOOD CONDITION,
6 ABLE TO WALK OUT, IS SAYING, "I'M A CELEBRITY, HELP ME OUT OF
7 HERE," THE HOMELESS PERSON IS LYING THERE, INCAPABLE OF
8 WALKING OUT THEMSELVES, WHO DOES THE FIREMAN HELP? THIS BUDGET
9 PROCESS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON PRIORITIES. YES, THE TRAILS ARE
10 IMPORTANT. HOWEVER, THE HOMELESS ARE IMPORTANT. WHEN PEOPLE
11 COME IN PUBLIC COMMENT, THEY MAY NOT SPEAK IN THE SAME
12 LANGUAGE THAT THIS BOARD IS FAMILIAR WITH. THEY MAY NOT BE
13 ABLE TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROGRAMS THAT THEY ARE REFERRING TO.
14 THAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROPOSAL. WHAT WE HAVE -- WHAT WE
15 REALIZE THAT WHEN PEOPLE ARE SURVIVING, THEN THEY HAVE A
16 TENDENCY TO FOCUS MORE ON THEIR PERSONAL CONCERNS BECAUSE THEY
17 NEED RELIEF FROM THAT FIRST, AND IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT TASK
18 TO COLLECTIVELY BRING A LOT OF PEOPLE TOGETHER. HOWEVER, MANY
19 PEOPLE ARE IN AGREEMENT FOR THE NEED OF HAVING A SERVICE
20 CENTER IN LOS ANGELES. IT WILL COST WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF
21 YEARS FOR THE COMPLETE PROGRAM TO WORK PROPERLY, \$500 MILLION.
22 \$500 MILLION. BUT WHAT IS THE RISK OF FUNDING SUCH A PROGRAM?
23 THEY HAD THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER GO BACK, RECONSIDER
24 THE WHOLE BUDGET, AND DECIDE ON HOW TO REDIRECT FUNDS TO FUND
25 A \$500 MILLION PROGRAM, EXAMINING THOSE ASSEMBLY BILLS AND



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1 STATE BILLS AND FEDERAL SOURCES THAT CAN BE DIRECTED.
2 UNDERSTAND THAT FUNDING DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN DOLLAR BILLS, BUT
3 IT MEANS THE USE OF EXISTING STAFF, EXISTING FACILITIES,
4 EXISTING RESOURCES, SUCH AS MACLAREN HALL. MACLAREN HALL THAT
5 WAS SPOKEN ABOUT EARLIER, THEY HAD NO PLAN FOR IT, BUT WE HAVE
6 A COMMUNITY THAT DOES NOT HAVE A DREAM CENTER, THAT'S IN
7 DESPERATE NEED OF HAVING A SERVICE CENTER. HERE'S A PROPOSAL
8 BEFORE YOU AND A CENTER THAT'S AVAILABLE THAT WILL ACCOMMODATE
9 THIS COMPLETE PROGRAM. SO AGAIN, WE KNOW IT'S POSSIBLE FOR IT
10 TO BE MANIFESTED. WHAT ARE WE LOOKING AT HERE? WE ARE
11 EXAMINING THE ISSUE OF SECURITY THAT WAS ADDRESSED JUST BEFORE
12 MAY, AND THAT IS, WHEN THE STATUS QUO CONTINUE TO BE FUNDED
13 AND THERE'S PRIVATE INTEREST IN THAT, WHETHER IT'S MEDICAL
14 SERVICES, SOCIAL SERVICE, OR WHATEVER, THEN PEOPLE ARE
15 PROTECTING THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR PROFESSIONS. THEY WANT TO
16 DRIVE THE BEST CARS AND LIVE IN THE BEST HOMES, BUT IT'S NOT
17 IN MY BACKYARD. SO WHICH BACKYARD SUFFERS? IT'S THE FRONT
18 YARDS OF MANY AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND HISPANICS THAT'S
19 SUFFERING. IN HEALTHY CARE, THEY SPOKE ABOUT, IN THE HEALTHY
20 FAMILIES PROGRAM, THEY GAVE STATISTICS THAT APPLY HERE. WHAT
21 IS THE PRIORITY? AND THAT'S WHAT THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS ALL
22 ABOUT, EXAMINING WHAT IS THE PRIORITY NEED? SO WE'RE ASKING
23 THAT YOU WOULD USE DISCRETIONARY FUNDS, RESERVE FUNDS,
24 WHATEVER IS AVAILABLE AS WELL AS RESOURCES TO HELP FUND THIS
25 PROGRAM. NOW THIS FIRST YEAR, WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR \$500



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1 MILLION. WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR ARE ENOUGH FUNDS TO GET THIS
2 PROGRAM MOVING FORWARD, TO BEGIN TO PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES,
3 BECAUSE THIS WAS VITALLY NEEDED. THERE'S A LOT OF CHURCHES AND
4 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT'S WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS
5 PROCESS. IT WOULD INCREASE EMPLOYMENT. SOMETIME -- OVER THE
6 WEEKEND, I HEARD BILL GATES SPEAKING ON A BROADCAST AND HE WAS
7 SPEAKING ABOUT HOW HE DISTRIBUTED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO
8 DOCTORS AND HE SPOKE ON IF HE OFFERED THEM EVEN MORE MONEY,
9 WHAT THE USE OF THAT MONEY WOULD DO.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. WILLIAMS, YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED, AND I
12 THINK THAT YOU'VE GOTTEN OFF ISSUE IN TERMS OF A BUDGET OR A
13 PARTICULAR DEPARTMENT THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT. SO I KNOW THAT
14 YOU'LL BE HERE NEXT TUESDAY, AND YOU CAN CONTINUE WITH YOUR
15 STATEMENT, BUT AT THIS POINT, YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED.

16

17 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** MAY I MAKE A CLOSING STATEMENT, I APPRECIATE,
18 IT'D BE VERY FAST.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** A VERY FAST CLOSING STATEMENT YES.

21

22 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** THERE IS A RISK IN FUNDING THIS PROGRAM, AND
23 THE RISK OF FUNDING THIS PROGRAM IS THAT IT WILL SOLVE THE
24 PROBLEMS, IT WILL SAVE MONEY, BECAUSE THIS COUNTY WOULD CEASE
25 TO CONTINUE TO FUND THE SYMPTOMS AND INSTEAD FUND PROGRAMS



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1 THAT WILL ADDRESS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE AFRICAN-
2 AMERICAN POPULATION. I WILL BE BACK ON NEXT TUESDAY, THEN, TO
3 COMPLETE IT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

4

5 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE HAVE RUTH CHIQUITA
6 SUMMERS, BURGESS PAYNE, ALL RIGHT. COME UP. MS. PAYNE. HOW
7 ABOUT RUTH CHIQUITA SUMMERS. OH, I'M SORRY. HERSCHEL GRIMES,
8 SHIRLEY MOORE, ALL PLEASE COME FORWARD. OKAY. RICHARD BYRD.
9 ALL RIGHT, NOW, HAVE ANY OF THE PEOPLE WHOSE NAMES I CALLED,
10 ARE THEY HERE? HERSCHEL GRIMES, ARE YOU HERE?

11

12 **SPEAKER:** THEY HAD A MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

13

14 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY YOU'RE ALSO REPRESENTING SHIRLEY
15 MOORE?

16

17 **SPEAKER:** YES.

18

19 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. HOW ABOUT RICHARD BYRD?

20

21 **SPEAKER:** MR. BYRD, I'M NOT REPRESENTING, I KNOW WHO HE IS BUT
22 I SAW HIM IN ANOTHER MEETING BUT NOT --

23

24 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, OKAY RICHARD ROBINSON, COME
25 FORWARD WITH HER, AND THAT CONCLUDES ALL THE SPEAKERS WE HAVE



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1 RECEIVED FROM. ALL RIGHT. SO IF YOU CAN START. GIVE US YOUR
2 NAME, PLEASE.

3

4 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU. HOW ARE YOU ALL? ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO BE
5 IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ICON. MS. BURKE, I LOVE HER MUCH. AND
6 MR. YAROSLAVSKY, I TOTALLY APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH
7 FIRST FIVE L.A. I'M GOING TO MAKE A VERY SHORT STATEMENT IN
8 REFERENCE TO SOME INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE A MEETING WITH AS
9 WE SPEAK ROD PAIGE AND PRESIDENT BUSH ARE MEETING IN REFERENCE
10 TO SOME MONEY PROJECTS, AND WHAT HAPPENED WAS WE NOTICED WHEN
11 YOU GUYS WENT FOR YOUR BEGGING TRIP LAST WEEK, YOU CAME BACK A
12 LITTLE BIT DISAPPOINTED. HOWEVER, WE ARE GOING UP ON A TRIP,
13 BECAUSE THEY REQUESTED US TO COME, AND SO THAT'S WHY SOME OF
14 OUR PEOPLE ARE IN WASHINGTON AT PRESENT. NOW, THERE'S A
15 GENTLEMAN THAT COMES ON THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE NAMED PAT SAJACK
16 AND HE MADE A STATEMENT THAT HE ON THE ROSIE O'DONNELL SHOW
17 ONE DAY WHEN SHE ASKED HIM ABOUT MONEY AND HOW HE FELT ABOUT
18 GIVING AWAY ALL THAT MONEY. HE SAID, "FIRST OF ALL, IT'S NOT
19 HIS MONEY." THEN THE OTHER THING HE SAID, AND I AM
20 PARAPHRASING BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW THAT I AM SAYING EXACTLY
21 WHAT HE SAYS, BUT HE SAYS "I AM NOT ONE OF THOSE PERSONS WHO
22 BELIEVES THAT THERE IS SUCH A LIMITED SUPPLY OF FUNDS THAT IF
23 SOMEBODY ELSE GETS SOMETHING, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET
24 ANYTHING." AND I'M IN BIG TIME AGREEMENT WITH THAT. I HAVE
25 GOTTEN OFF OF MALTHUS'S TRUCK, BECAUSE THOMAS MALTHUS WANTED



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1 US TO BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE THERE WAS POVERTY IN IRELAND AT ONE
2 POINT, THAT EVERYBODY ELSE NEEDED TO SHUT DOWN HAVING THEIR
3 BABIES BECAUSE OF A POPULATION CRISIS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IF
4 YOU GO DOWN TO THE FEDERAL RESERVE RIGHT NOW, OUR GOVERNMENT
5 IS SOMEWHAT STILL RUNNING ON MALTHUS'S IDEAS BECAUSE THERE'S A
6 PICTURE OF MALTHUS DOWN THERE RIGHT ALONG WITH BITTY MASON,
7 WHOSE GROUND WE SIT ON. NOW, WHAT I AM GOING TO SAY TO YOU IS
8 THAT I'M IN AGREEMENT WITH EVERYBODY. I CERTAINLY WANT THE
9 COALITION FOR BLACKS' BEST INTEREST TO RECEIVE THE RESOURCES
10 FOR HOUSING, FOR THE MEDIA CENTER, THINGS THAT ARE NAMED IN
11 THERE AND FOR THE VANS AND SHUTTLE BUSES TO GO BACK AND FORTH
12 TO TIE THE COMMUNITIES TOGETHER, AND I CERTAINLY WANT THEM TO
13 HAVE SATELLITE CENTERS AND A LARGE CENTER AND I'M SURE THAT IT
14 CAN COME OUT OF SOME OF THE AREAS WHERE YOU HAVE SOFT FUNDS.
15 NOW, OUR MEMBERS OF THE LIFE GROUP, THERE ARE 182 BUSINESSES
16 IN THE LIFE GROUP, AND WE WERE SHOCKED TO FIND THAT YOU GUYS
17 WERE GOING TO SHOT OFF THESE HEARINGS AS OF -- INSTEAD OF
18 HAVING 10 DAYS, BECAUSE WE WANTED TO PRESENT ABOUT 500
19 PROPOSALS SO THAT YOU GUYS COULD UTILIZE SOME OF THAT MONEY
20 THAT'S IN RESERVE AND SOME OF THE FUNDS THAT'S FOR TRAININGS
21 AND THINGS LIKE THAT WHERE PEOPLE COME IN AND THEY ARE
22 ESSENTIALLY COMING ON VACATION TO THIS SPOT, AND I DON'T MIND
23 THEM HAVING THEIR VACATIONS, BUT WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS TO FIND
24 SOME OF THE SOFT AREAS. I LOVE HORSEBACK RIDING AND I
25 CERTAINLY WANT THEIR TRAILS TO BE MAINTAINED, BUT IN THE



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1 MEANTIME, WHAT WE ARE LOOKING AT IS, IS THAT THIS PLACE RIGHT
2 HERE WE ARE SAYING THAT THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY THAT HAS ALL
3 THE PUBLICITY IN THE WORLD FROM HOLLYWOOD NEEDS TO BE FIXED
4 UP. IF THIS WERE NOT SUCH A BIG RAGGEDY TOWN THAT THREW PEOPLE
5 IN SHOCK, OR COUNTY, IF YOU WILL, WHEN THEY GOT HERE, BECAUSE
6 I WENT INTO SHOCK AND TOLD EVERYBODY THAT THIS WAS A RAGGEDY
7 PLACE, IT IS NOT WHAT HOLLYWOOD REPORTS. AND SO WHAT WE NEED
8 TO DO IS TO BRING IN MORE TOURIST DOLLARS IN THIS AREA, TAKE
9 SOME OF THOSE MONEYS THAT ARE IN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE SOFT
10 FUNDS SO THAT THINGS LIKE THE ESTRA LEADER OR STAR
11 NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER THAT COULD BE BUILT, WHICH IS OUR IDEA,
12 ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT, SO THAT SUCH
13 THINGS AS THE CULTURAL REFLECTIONS PRODUCTIONS COMPANY THING
14 CAN BE DONE, SORES PROJECT, AND ALL OF THOSE WONDERFUL THINGS
15 LIKE BUILDING MORE HOSPITALS AND ALL THAT CAN BE DONE. SO ALL
16 I'M ASKING YOU GUYS TO DO IS TO FIRST OF ALL, LOOK AT WHAT WE
17 SENT TO THE PRESIDENT, BECAUSE STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, ROD
18 PAIGE, WHO IS A WONDERFUL GUY WHO TURNED THE HOUSTON SCHOOL
19 SYSTEM AROUND. THEY PAID HIM WELL, BUT HE TURNED IT AROUND,
20 AND HE BECAME THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND MR. BUSH IS
21 ASKING US POOR BLACK REPUBLICANS TO COME UP THERE AND SEE WHAT
22 WE CAN DO. SO IN ORDER TO MAKE THE PEOPLE BE HAPPIER, AND SO
23 THE ONE THING THAT WE'RE ASKING OF THE BOARD IS IS TO FIND
24 BETTER WAYS OF SPENDING YOUR MONDAY, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, LET
25 US KNOW SINCE WE GOT HIS EAR RIGHT NOW, OR THEIR EARS, WHAT IT



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1 IS THAT THIS COUNTY NEEDS IN ORDER TO GET MORE MONEY IN,
2 BECAUSE AS WE FOUND OUT, YOUR BEGGING TRIP DIDN'T WORK, BUT
3 OURS, BASED UPON ALL OF OUR BUSINESSES GOING UP, I THINK WILL
4 WORK A LITTLE BIT BETTER.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. --
7 THANK YOU.

8

9 **SPEAKER:** PLEASE READ. THANK YOU.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. ROBINSON.

12

13 **SPEAKER:** OH YOU NEED ANOTHER COPY, SURE.

14

15 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME? THANK
16 YOU. [MIXED VOICES]

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. ROBINSON, WE'RE WAITING ON YOU, PLEASE.

19

20 **RICHARD ROBINSON:** MADAM CHAIRWOMAN, MEMBERS, RICHARD ROBINSON.
21 FREEDOM IS A PRECIOUS COMMODITY. WHILE WATCHING MR. SHAPIRO'S
22 LAST DIATRIBE ON CHANNEL 58, I AM REMINDED OF THE CORRECTNESS
23 OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT, BUT IN HOLLYWOOD, THE LICENSE BEING
24 TAKEN WITH IT IS ALLOWING THOSE WHO ABUSE THEIR FREEDOMS TO



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1 PROLIFERATE, SO AS YOU DELIBERATE, REMEMBER, THE INCREASING
2 NEED FOR SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. TODAY'S BUDGET HEARING
5 IS ADJOURNED TO TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, 2003, AT 10:00 A.M. THE
6 BOARD WILL HEAR TESTIMONY FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY AT 10:00
7 A.M. AND THEN THE BUDGET HEARINGS WILL RECESS UNTIL NO EARLIER
8 THAN 1:00 P.M. AT WHICH TIME THE BOARD WILL HEAR TESTIMONY
9 FROM THE SHERIFF, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, COUNTY
10 COUNSEL, AUDITOR-CONTROLLER, AND OTHERS REGARDING THE 2003/4
11 PROPOSED BUDGET. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

12